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REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

Berkeley Castle; a Historical Romance. By the Hon. Granley F. Berkeley, M.P. 3vols. 12mo. London, 1836. Bentley.

THE idea of this work is excellent. The romantic is the element of an old castle; and no one could be so susceptible of its influence as one to whom such association was connected with the freshness of childhood and the eagerness of youth. The presence of the vaulted hall—the armour darkening on the wall—the tapestry, whose figures were once pictures of the present—must give singular reality to the records with which they are environed;

"They clothe the palpable, and the familiar,
With shadows from the past."

We should characterise these volumes as picturesque; and, in good truth, the picturesque is the sole relic of the feudal age worth preserving. There never was a period whose influence has been more injurious to human interests generally. The feudal was based on the principle of force. The seaking and the mailed chief seized with the sword, and kept with the red right hand. The cruelties acquired in predatory warfare became habitual; and the most atrocious acts were received as calmly as King Richard received the intelligence, that the pork of which he had been supping was the fragment of a slaughtered enemy:

"At that the kynge he was no wode,
Quoth he, is Saracen's flesh so gude?"

But the evils of the feudal system have had an influence far outlasting their early era of "battle, murder, and sudden death." Mankind delight in delusion; and oppression and weakness formed a mistaken compact, under the high-sounding names of loyalty and fidelity. These two words have done more to retard the course of improvement, than two hundred years have done to forward it. They gave to the few what is the birthright of the many; they broke up the wide expanse of freedom with individual interests. Their legislative enactments were the game-laws on a large scale. Gradually, however, the mental made head against the physical—commerce brought the practical to aid the theory of the intellectual—men began to appeal to each other's heads, instead of their hands; still, how much remains to be done; how slow has been our moral progress; how many prejudices remain to be shaken, before the great cause of civil equality can assert that universal dominion which is its right! When the multitude, destined to check the crescent with the cross, assembled on the plains of Auvergne, the emperors, kings, and prelates, yielded to their shout, exclaiming, "It is the voice of God!" It was the voice of the people; and that voice will carry on its crusade to the last. Let us quote a note to one of these volumes:—

"During the summer of 1832, and previously to the then approaching contest for the Western Division of Gloucestershire, about nine o'clock one evening, in the neighbourhood of Coleford, a party of miners returning from their work were met and accosted by one of the candidates, whom they did not recognise,

and asked, 'if they had heard of an approaching election?' One of them replied in the affirmative: and, on being further questioned as to who would be likely to meet with the best success in their district, added, 'that if the report was true of one of the Berkeley family coming forward, they should all go along with him, as it seemed natural.'—Ed."

What is this, but an instance how a long habit of subordination becomes a principle, and an injurious one? The candidate might or might not be fitted for the most important office with which a man can be invested—that of being entrusted with the care of property, liberty, and life. Such question is, however, not even thought of, much less asked; they vote for him on a blind principle of passive obedience. Truly has it been said, that the present has no enemy like the past. What that past has been, is vividly depicted in the very pages now before us: an interesting domestic story is worked up with the castle and its chronicles; and the character of the hero is drawn with great felicity and truth. He is very young, according to our modern idea; but, at that time, men were launched into life at a much earlier period than at present. Surrey and Sydney were not nineteen when one had command of a foreign expedition, and the other conducted a difficult diplomatic mission. And here our ancestors were right: we cannot begin the rough education of realities too soon. Alas! they sometimes leave us untaught at last. Still, the sooner we are dis-illusioned, the better: if illusions cost a pang at parting, the earlier we get rid of them the happier for ourselves. Herbert Reardon, however young, quite fulfils the duties assigned to the hero of romance. He is brave, handsome, and in love with three ladies at once. His love-making is, however, very modern. The following speech is rather "subtle and metaphysical" for a boy-lover of the fourteenth century.

"Why, if no blame be really due, do people strive to attribute so much to yourself and the leaders whom you follow?" "Simply, dear lady, for this reason. There are men possessed of neither honour, taste, nor emulation, who crawl upon the face of the earth like the cold-blooded reptile of the primitive creation; who are so conscious of their own moral deformity, that they cannot endure the mental beauty or acknowledged nobleness of their fellows; detesting them not so much for their possession of virtue, as for the contrast thus afforded when in juxtaposition to their own vices: the sinner blames not himself because he sins, but you, because you see his crime, and thus every coward, in his secret soul, detests a gallant heart. Every man who fails with woman loathes a favoured lover; and he who receives the public praise only adds to his private foes. Let but a man advance beyond the common crowd, and envy dogs his foot at every step. Were it my wish to form an opinion of a perfect stranger, I would seek information as to his character among his foes rather than his friends, and should the former deeply hate—nay, forge a faulty reputation, and yet respect and fear the object of their malice, rely upon it, lady, such is a better test by which to try the gold than

any furnace can afford when fanned by the breath of friendship. To slander a man in the society of women is an act of the meanest cowardice, for it assails him where he is defenceless, and allows him no chance of refutation. Should the calumny reach his ears—a female lip conveys it, and the authority is sacred from quotation: the coward, therefore, couches still in envenomed safety. I would not exchange my chance of life, if hanging by a thread from the highest point of the rocks on which we stand, for an age of such foul security. Let slanderers revel in their questionable power: did I seek to reach the heart of woman, it should be by some less ignoble path, for it can never be won by mean insinuations. So highly indeed do I estimate her disposition, that, of policy without relating to integrity, sooner would I that she should hear me in praise than in blame of a competitor."

This smacks rather of St. Stephen than St. George; still we quote it for its knowledge of human—we mean social, nature. As a specimen of another style, we give the conclusion of a spirited interview, in which Lord Berkeley refuses his support to the Lancastrian party.

"I ask thee, canst thou recal the past, quicken the dead, or awake the veins of petrification? No!—then do not mock me with such wide requests. Were it in my power to place Margaret of Anjou and her drivelling consort once more upon the throne,—were they bound to administer to my demands with those ample means which station lends a king, and were the hearts of my fallen foes the stepping-stones to greatness, I would not exchange the contempt I feel, on viewing the fall of the whole, for revenge in part, or any such more visible atonement. * * * * * And now, feeling that some reparation is due to an honoured foe (if foe I have the misfortune to deem thee), for the method of my speech, and for having so characterised thine absent friend, thou wilt not, Sir Robert, deem thy crest dishonoured by this token of my willingness, in the hour of battle, to seek out and afford thee satisfaction."

Thus saying, Lord Berkeley cast his gauntlet at the foot of Sir Robert Wells; but, ere that knight could stoop to reach it, he raised it himself from the ground, and courteously tendered it to his hands. "Thanks to thee, Berkeley. No bride was ever more ardently welcomed to the arms of a bridegroom, than shall that glove be to my crest, and God send thee grace to regain it; though 'twould have pleased me more to have grasped limb and all, in plight of good-fellowship. But now, farewell." "Stay," said Lord Berkeley, "wilt thou not do honour to our poor repeat, by partaking of it? Thou hast ridden far and swift, as the side of thy steed can testify." Sir Robert Wells shook his head, and was turning to depart; when Lord Berkeley, filling a goblet full of wine, approached him, and added, "At least, Sir Robert, extend not thy injustice to my cellar; here is a stoop of Bordeaux that shames not, on comparison, with any in the king's vaults. Honour me at least, by wetting thy lips." The knight complied, and then, proceeding in the direction of his horse, the glove, which he had placed in his helmet as the gage of battle,

escaped, unobserved by him, from the fastening, and fell on the ground; whence it was picked up by Sir John Guise. 'What ho, Sir Robert!' said the latter, 'tarry a moment, and behold thy loss. May the falling of the glove not be emblematical of the lopping off the head; thou hast already lost the gage of battle.'

We conclude with one of the many exquisite touches of description with which these pages abound:

"There is not a prettier time of the year than the close of September and the commencement of October. At this period, still enough of summer is left to prevent any painful regret for things that have passed away; while new beauties, appearing upon the prospect, fill up the vacancies which would otherwise occur, and, as in the more important passages of life, outdazzle, by their splendid novelty, long domesticated associations. Each tree or brake that bordered our path, had more or less put on the blush of autumn; the hedges mantled in the ripeness of their red and purple berries; the orchards, teeming with their golden and delicious fruit, gave their fragrance to the air; while the dried sweetness of the withered leaves already fallen, floated up at every turn upon our senses, like gentle reminiscences of past pleasure."

There are many curious and amusing notes; and the vein of thought throughout belongs to an observing and poetical mind. But one of the most agreeable passages we can quote for our readers' benefit is the last.

"Reader, my present task is concluded; but, should these pages afford amusement to my friends, and in the event of public expression displaying itself favourably to the style and method of their composition, there yet remain ample materials in the evidence-house of Berkeley to furnish forth many like volumes."

We congratulate Mr. Berkeley on the composition of his present task; but we do so with

"A further-looking hope."

Sketches of English Literature; with Considerations on the Spirit of the Times, Men, and Revolutions. By the Viscount de Chateaubriand. 2 vols. 8vo. London, 1836. Colburn.

It is impossible for an English judgment to form an accurate estimate of Chateaubriand. He is the ideal of French genius; and to measure it, we must refer to standards of taste often diametrically opposed to our own. We have no style in our language that answers to the poetical prose of France. Such writers would, with us, have found expression in verse, which is, in England, allowed that license so necessary to freedom of feeling and of thought. Now, prose allows that liberty: but it also allows more; and, from lacking the needful compression of rhythm, sound, which so often influences sense, it runs into diffuseness and exaggeration. We must, moreover, remember that, in a translation, Chateaubriand loses the fascination of his peculiarly melodious and picturesque style. It is an affection, we can call it by no higher name, to depreciate our author somewhat, on this side the Channel. We are wrong; Chateaubriand is one of the great men of the last age. There are two lists which may be applied to genius: first, its appreciation in its own country; secondly, the influence which it has exercised. The reputation which the author of the "*Génie de Christianisme*" has in his native soil, belongs to the highest order, and is based on the true, the generous, and the passionate—all those

finer elements which constitute poetical fame. The influence of his writings has given an impetus to all modern imaginative literature. The impressions received in youth become part of the mind; it is in their modification that we form what is called judgment. We remember hearing one of the leading writers of our time say, that he should never forget the first reading of "*Atala*." "The remembrance of youth," says the Arabian proverb, "is a sigh;" and a sigh is the most real breath that we draw. The scene in the forest, where, in the tempest of the air, the young Indians hear the echo of the fiercer tempest of their hearts,—this scene has originated half the impassioned pictures of the struggles between the love of heaven and that of earth. When our author's pamphlet in favour of the Bourbons was published, it rang through France like the sound of a trumpet. Now, from its political principles we utterly differ; the Bourbons, like the Stuarts, made their own destiny "by forgetting nothing, and learning nothing;" but we honour the unselfishness whose moral outweighs its poetical lesson. In an age so material as the present, all the emotions that carry us out of ourselves should be cultivated as duties—one generous sentiment generates another. We say of the elevated sensations what Schiller says of the gods:

"Never, believe me,
Appear the Immortals;
Never alone."

Chateaubriand asserts the claim of the past upon the present; and, in shewing what has been done for us, also shews how much it is incumbent upon us to do. It has been finely said, that "we live under the shadow of posterity." We ourselves were once to come; and we were worked for, expected, and honoured. It is this spirit which animates the eloquent page of Chateaubriand. He makes the recollections of the past the stimulus of the future. He lights the fire on a deserted altar; but it is a fire at which the heart will warm some of its noblest and best feelings. So much for our general estimate of the author of "*Le Génie de Christianisme*:" we must now proceed to the work before us. It is a series of essays, all the work of a poetical, a cultivated, and a graceful mind. They are full of a variety of information, and resemble a mental diary, recording his impressions as he travelled through our world of poetry. From many of the opinions we differ; still, they are opinions we are glad to have considered: they deserve respect, even in dissent. We shall first select a few passages to give an idea of the general style, and shall discuss one or two differing points.

Present State of Christianity.—"The Christian religion is entering upon a new era: like institutions and manners, it is undergoing the third transformation. It is ceasing to be political, according to the old social mechanism; it is advancing to the great principle of the Gospel: natural and democratic equality between man and man, as it is acknowledged before God. Its flexible circle extends with knowledge and liberty, whilst the cross for ever marks its immovable centre."

Historical Truth.—"Nations begin and end with gladiators and puppets; children and old men are puerile and cruel."

The Inevitable.—"These reflections, which present themselves on occasion of every historical catastrophe, are vain. There is always a moment in the annals of nations in which, if such or such a thing had not happened, if such

or such a man had been or had not been dead, if such or such a measure had been taken, or such or such a fault not committed, that which followed could not have happened. But God decrees, that men should be born with dispositions suited to the events which they are to bring about. Louis XVI. had a hundred opportunities of escape; he did not escape, simply because he was Louis XVI. It is childish, then, to lament accidents which produce what they are destined to produce. At each step in life, a thousand different distances, a thousand future chances, are opening on us, though we can see but one horizon, and rush forward to one future."

Cromwell.—"Cromwell scarcely rose above this style of eloquence, as we may judge by his obscure speeches and rambling letters. His poetry lay in facts and in his sword. He was a poet while gazing on Charles I. in his coffin. His muse was the female, who, by his own account, appeared to him in his childhood, and promised him royalty."

Napoleon.—"When Napoleon for the second time quitted France, it was asserted that he ought to have buried himself under the ruins of his last battle. Lord Byron, in his satirical ode against Napoleon, says:

'To die a prince—or live a slave,
Thy choice is most ignobly brave.'

This was an incorrect estimate of the hope still kindling in a soul accustomed to dominion and thirsting after the future. Lord Byron imagined that the dictator of kings had abdicated his fame with his sword, that he was about to die away in utter oblivion: Lord Byron should have known that the destiny of Napoleon was a muse, like all other great destinies; this muse knew how to change an abortive catastrophe into a sudden turn of fortune, which would have revived and imparted fresh youth to its hero. The solitude of Napoleon, in his exile and in his tomb, has thrown another kind of spell over a brilliant memory. Alexander did not die in sight of Greece; he disappeared amid the pomp of distant Babylon: Bonaparte did not close his eyes in the presence of France; he passed away in the gorgeous horizons of the torrid zone. The man who had shewn himself in such powerful reality vanished like a dream; his life, which belonged to history, co-operated in the poetry of his death. He now sleeps for ever, like a hermit or a paria, beneath a willow, in a narrow valley surrounded by steep rocks, at the extremity of a lonely path. The depth of the silence which presses upon him can only be compared to the vastness of that tumult which had surrounded him. Nations are absent; their throng has retired. The bird of the tropics, harnessed to the car of the sun, as Buffon magnificently expresses it, speeding his flight downwards from the planet of light, rests alone for a moment over ashes, the weight of which has shaken the equilibrium of the globe. Bonaparte crossed the ocean, to repair to his final exile, regardless of that beautiful sky which delighted Columbus, Vasco de Gama, and Camoëns; stretched upon the ship's stern, her perceived not that unknown constellations were sparkling over his head; his powerful glance for the first time encountered their rays. What to him were stars which he had never seen from his bivouacs, and which had never shone over his empire? Nevertheless, not one of them has failed to fulfil its destiny; one half of the firmament spread its light over his cradle; the other half was reserved to illuminate his tomb."

Letters.—"But a private correspondence between two persons who have loved each other,

presents, perhaps, something still more sad ; for it is no longer men, but the man, that one sees. At first the letters are long, lively, frequent. The day is not sufficient for them. The writer commences at sunset : he pens a few words by moonlight, charging the chaste, silent, discreet luminary to cover with its modesty a thousand wishes. The lovers parted at dawn ; they await its first rays to write what they had forgotten to say during the hours of rapture. A thousand vows cover the paper on which are reflected the roses of Aurora ; a thousand kisses are deposited on the burning words, which seem to emanate from the first look of the sun. Not an idea, an image, a reverie, an incident, an uneasiness, but has its letter. Some morning or other, something scarcely perceptible fixes itself upon the beauty of this passion, like the first wrinkle on the brow of an adored female. The breath and the perfume of love expire in those pages of youth, as a breeze languishes at evening among the flowers : we perceive it, but will not confess it to ourselves. The letters become shorter and less frequent ; they are filled with news, with descriptions, with extraneous matters : some are delayed, but we are less uneasy ; certain of loving, and being beloved, the parties are become reasonable ; they have ceased to grumble, they submit to absence. Vows are still interchanged ; they are still the same words ; but they are dead words — the soul is wanting. The "I love you," is now but an expression of habit, an obligatory phrase — the "I have the honour to be" of an ordinary epistle. By-and-by the manner becomes cold or angry. The post-day is no longer awaited with impatience ; it is dreaded : it becomes a fatigue to write. We blush at the thought of the follies that we have committed to paper : how glad we should be to get back our letters, and to throw them into the fire ! How has this come to pass ? Is it a new attachment that is commencing, or an old attachment that is ending ? No matter : it is love that is expiring before the object loved."

The essay on Milton is, as a whole, what we like best. It is written in a fine spirit of appreciation, and with a careful investigation of the history of the times. That on Shakespeare we like less — that on Byron, least. Perhaps, it is the intensely national character of these two last poets that render it impossible for a stranger fully to understand them ; Milton's vast learning, his classical polish, the unity of his purpose, make him belong more especially to the general world of literature. He develops not only the peculiarities of an individual and social position, but the one great ideal of humanity. Shakespeare, on the contrary, especially in his humorous delineations, is intensely English ; his comedy is made up of our proverbs, our manners and peculiarities ; it would suit us in the present day : many of the scenes in his historical plays seem copied from our actual mob. Byron, again, bore our social stamp. His poetry was the first to give expression to that morbid sensitiveness and gloom which equally belong to our climate and character. The very satire of "Don Juan" has more of despondency than even sarcasm. We conclude with what takes the form of a prophecy — it is, at least, an opinion from one whose judgment has been matured among the most important events of modern times.

"Society, such as it is at present, will not continue to exist. As instruction descends to the lower classes, these will discover the secret cancer which has been corroding social order ever since the beginning of the world ; a com-

plaint which is the cause of all popular discontent and commotions. The too great inequality of conditions and fortunes has been able to uphold itself so long as it was hidden, on the one hand, by ignorance — on the other, by the factitious organisation of the city ; but no sooner is this inequality generally perceived, than a mortal blow is given to it. Enforce again, if you can, the aristocratic fictions. Strive to persuade the poor man, when he has learned to read — the poor man, who is daily prompted by the press, from time to time, from village to village — strive to persuade this poor man, possessing the same knowledge and understanding as yourself, that he ought to submit to all privations, whilst such-a-one, his neighbour, possesses, without labour, a thousand times as much as he needs — your efforts will be useless. Expect not of the multitude virtues that are beyond nature. The material development of society will advance the development of mind. When steam communication shall be brought to perfection, when, jointly with the telegraph and railroads, it shall have annihilated distance, not merchandise alone, but ideas also, will travel from one extremity of the globe to the other with the rapidity of lightning. When the fiscal and commercial barriers between different states shall be abolished, as they already are between the provinces of one and the same state ; when wages, which is but a prolonged slavery, shall have emancipated themselves with the assistance of the equality established between the producer and the consumer ; when the different countries, adopting each other's manners, forsaking national prejudices, the old ideas of supremacy or conquest, shall tend to a unity of nations ; by what means will you make society turn back to worn-out principles ? * * * Any power, overthrown, not by accident, but by time, by a change gradually effected in convictions or ideas, is never re-established ; in vain you would strive to raise it under another name, to regenerate it under a new form : it cannot re-adjust its dislocated limbs in the dust in which it lies, an object of insult or of derision. Of the divinity which people had forged for themselves, before which they had bent the knee, nothing is left but ironical miseries. When the Christians broke in pieces the gods of Egypt, they saw rats run forth from the heads of the idols. All things pass away. Not an infant now issues from the womb of his mother but is an enemy to the old society."

We now leave this remarkable and interesting work, of which our limited columns can give but a bird's-eye view. There are many points to which we are opposed, some errors, and some prejudices : still it is a work of thought and of feeling ; and we conclude as we began, by saying, Chateaubriand is one of the great men of our time.

History of the Western Highlands and Isles of Scotland, from A.D. 1493 to A.D. 1625 : with a Brief introductory Sketch from A.D. 80 to A.D. 1493. By Donald Gregory, Joint Secretary to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, &c. 8vo. pp. 453. Edinburgh, 1836. W. Tait ; London, Simpkin, Marshall, and Co. ; Dublin, Cumming.

THIS contribution to Scottish history displays, it is true, little else than sanguinary feuds, massacres, murders, conspiracies, executions, and desolations, still it throws a side light upon many of the principal events which the national annals unfold, and is, therefore, valuable as an accessory to these annals. Unlike the accounts of early Rome or Greece, the

struggles of these barbarians having led to no great result, such as the establishment of empire, or the advance of letters, arts, or civilisation, but simply merged into the mass of a conquering state, the chief interest which can be felt in them must be confined to the incidents described, as they exhibit the features of society in the wildest forms, and shew us the condition of a people, during centuries of contention and strife, inroad succeeding inroad, clan after clan rising or perishing, one family destroyed, another raised to power, and all the vicissitudes of that uncertain period where might was almost the only right, and human life was not worth more than a pin's fee. In order to give some idea of our author, though we cannot follow him through all the descendants of the famous Somerled, nor enter upon the genealogies of the Macdonalds, Macdougals, Macleans, Macleods, Macruaries, Macneills, Mackinnons, Macians, Mackays, Macquarries, Macfies, Stewarts, and Campbells, we shall quote his more general opening to the Highland view.

"Various causes (he observes) contributed, in former times, to divide the Scottish Highlands into two sections, between which there existed a well-defined line of demarcation. The West Highlands and Isles formed one of these sections : the Central Highlands, and all those districts in which the waters flowed to the east, formed the other. The great mountain-ridge, called, of old, Drumalban, from which the waters flowed to either coast of Scotland, was the least of these causes of distinction. The numerical superiority of the Dalriads on the west, and of the Picts on the east side of Drumalban, and the frequent wars between these nations ; the conquest, and occupation for nearly four hundred years, of the Hebrides, by the warlike Scandinavians ; and, lastly, the union of the Isles and a great part of the adjacent coast, during the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, under the sway of one powerful family, while the eastern clans had no similar community of interest, and owned no similar controlling power : — these were the chief causes of the distinction which, in later times, was found to exist between the Western and Eastern Highlanders. The history of the latter cannot properly be blended with that of the former ; and, if introduced into the same work, would only serve to distract the attention of the reader. A perusal of the following pages will shew that, during a great portion of the period I have endeavoured to illustrate, the Western clans had a common object which frequently united them in hostility to the government. In this way, the measures employed at first for their coercion, and afterwards for their advancement in civilisation, came naturally to be separate from those directed to the subjugation (if I may use the phrase) and improvement of the Eastern tribes. In the public records of Scotland, with scarcely an exception, the distinction I have pointed out is acknowledged either directly or indirectly. So much for the reasons which induced me to select, for the subject of the present work, the history of the West Highlands and Isles. Having chosen this subject, I very soon perceived that the history of this portion of the Scottish Highlands might advantageously be divided into three portions. The first portion might embrace its early history, and the rise and fall of the great lordship of the Isles ; the second might trace the immediate effects of the forfeiture of that lordship, and bring the history down to the time when, by the exertions of James VI., the Western Highlanders, from

being frequently in rebellion against the royal authority, had begun to be distinguished for their loyalty; and the third might record their exertions in support of the house of Stewart, increasing in energy in proportion as the hopes of that unfortunate family became more desperate."

This statement fairly unfolds Mr. Gregory's purpose; and we have to say, that he has sought, and obtained from many curious sources, very various information to aid him in its execution. His sketch of the earliest known, or half-known, period of Scottish history may further illustrate this remark.

"The facts (he truly states) bearing on the subject are, unfortunately, few in number. From the Roman authors, who afford the earliest accurate information regarding the tribes of North Britain, it appears that, during the two centuries after the invasion of Agricola, A.D. 80, Scotland was inhabited by two nations only—the Caledonii and the Meate. Of these, the Caledonii alone inhabited the Highlands; and, indeed, all modern Scotland north of the Firths of Forth and Clyde. After the third century, the names of Caledonii and Meate disappear, and we find the Romans terming their northern opponents, Picti and Attacotti. Historians seem now to have agreed that the Picts were, in fact, the Caledonians under a new name; that they were a Celtic race; and that, until the sixth century, they continued to be the sole nation north of the Firths—being divided into two great branches: the Dicaldones inhabiting the more mountainous and more rugged districts north and west of the Grampian range; and the Vecturiones inhabiting the more level districts between the Grampians and the German Ocean. Thus, the former corresponded to the Highlanders of the present day, whilst the latter possessed the Lowlands, from the plains of Moray on the north to Fife and Strathern on the south. In the beginning of the sixth century, a new people was added to the inhabitants of Scotland, north of Forth and Clyde—for, at that period, the Irish Scots, frequently called the Dalriads, effected a settlement in the western districts of the Highlands. At this time, the country south of the Firths was occupied by the Strathclyde Britons; but the subsequent conquest of Northumberland and the Lothians, by the Angles, before the close of the sixth century, added that nation to the inhabitants of the south of Scotland. During the sixth, seventh, and eighth centuries, the history of Scotland presents nothing but a succession of conflicts between these four nations, which produced but little permanent change in their relative situations. In the ninth century, however, a revolution took place, the nature of which it is almost impossible to determine, from the unfortunate silence of all the older authorities, whilst the fables of the later historians are quite unworthy of credit. But it is certain, that the result of this revolution was the nominal union of most of the tribes under Kenneth MacAlpin, a king of the Scottish or Dalriadic race, and the consequent spread of the name of Scotland over the whole country. However this important event might affect the population of the rich and fertile Lowlands, it seems perfectly clear, that the Dicaldones, or Picts, who formed the bulk of the Highland population in these early times, were secured from any sweeping change, by the rugged nature of the country they inhabited. In these Dicaldones, therefore, we see the ancestors of the great mass of the modern Highlanders, excepting those of Ar-

gyleshire; among whom, in all probability, the Dalriadic blood predominated. The name of Albanich, which, as far back as we can trace, is the proper appellation of the Scottish Highlanders, seems to prove their descent from that tribe which gave to Britain its earliest name of Albion, and which may, therefore, be considered as the first tribe that set foot in this island. The earliest inhabitants of the Western Isles, or Ebudes (corruptly, Hebrides), were probably a portion of the Albanich, Caledonians, or Picts. In some of the southern islands, particularly Isla, this race must have been displaced or overrun by the Dalriads on their first settlement; so that, at the date of the Scottish Conquest, the Isles, like the adjacent mainland, were divided between the Picts and Scots. The change produced in the original population of the Western Isles, by the influx of the Scots—a cognate Celtic race—was, however, trifling, compared with that which followed the first settlements of the Scandinavians in the Isles, towards the end of the ninth century. From the chronicles both of England and Ireland, it appears that these northern pirates commenced their ravages in the British Isles a hundred years before this time, and many of them were thus well acquainted with the Western Isles prior to their effecting a permanent settlement in them. An important revolution in Norway led to this settlement. About the year 880, the celebrated Harald Harfager established himself as the first king of all Norway, after bringing into subjection a number of the petty kings of that country. Many of the most violent of Harald's opponents sought to escape his vengeance, by leaving their native land, and establishing themselves in the Scottish Isles, from the numerous harbours of which they afterwards issued, in piratical fashion, to infest the coasts of Norway. King Harald was not of a nature to allow such insults to pass unpunished. He pursued the pirates to their insular fastnesses, and not only subdued them, but added the Isles to the crown of Norway. In the following year, the Vikings of the Isles revolted, and renewed their piratical expeditions, but were speedily reduced to obedience by Ketil, a Norwegian of rank, despatched by Harald to the Isles for that purpose. Ketil, however, having ingratiated himself with the principal Islanders, soon declared himself king of the Isles, independent of Norway, and held this rank for the rest of his life. According to the *Norse Sagas*, all the race of Ketil were either dead, or had left the Isles, about the year 900; and, for nearly forty years after this date, the history of the Isles is very obscure."

As we have noticed, it is not possible for us to pursue the divisions of this history; and we must be content to dip, in the briefest manner, into one or two of the principal data. Thus, the treaty between Alexander III. of Scotland, and Magnus, son of Haco, and his successor, as king of Norway, A.D. 1266, altogether changed the aspect of the Western Isles, which were thereby ceded to Scotland.

"One of the articles of the important treaty, by which this cession was made, provided that a certain annual sum should be paid by Scotland to Norway, in consideration of the latter yielding up all claim to the Isles. Another declared that such of the subjects of Norway as were inclined to quit the Hebrides, should have full liberty to do so, with all their effects; whilst those who preferred remaining were to become subjects of Scotland. To this latter class, the King of Norway, in fulfilment of his part of the treaty, addressed a mandate, enjoining

them henceforth to serve and obey the King of Scotland, as their liege-lord; and it was further arranged, that none of the Islanders were to be punished for their former adherence to the Norwegians. During these transactions, the position of the descendants of Somerled was rather singular. [The particulars are related, and the author continues.] Of these descendants, there were, in 1265, three great noblemen, all holding extensive possessions in the Isles, as well as on the mainland, who attended in that Scottish parliament by which the crown was settled on the Maiden of Norway. Their names were, Alexander de Ergadia of Lorn (son of Ewin of Lorn), Angus, the son of Donald, and Allan, the son of Ruari. From the nature of the treaty in 1266, it is obvious that these individuals were vassals of the King of Scotland for all their possessions, and not merely for what they held on the mainland, as some have supposed. It is further clear, that, at this time, none of the three bore the title of Lord of the Isles, or could have been properly so considered; and it is equally certain, that the first individual whom we find assuming the style of Lord of the Isles, in its modern signification, possessed all those Isles, and very nearly all those mainland estates, which, in 1265, were divided among three powerful noblemen of the same blood. But of this hereafter. From the preceding remarks, it will readily be perceived that the boasted independence of the modern Lords of the Isles is without historical foundation. Prior to 1266, the Isles were subject to Norway: at that date, the treaty of cession transferred them to Scotland; and, ever since, they have remained subject to the latter crown, notwithstanding successive rebellions, instigated, in every case, by the government of England, in order to embarrass the Scots."

The rise of the Campbell family is a remarkable episode during the later years of these records; but we can only observe, that it was crowned in 1615; when, by putting down the rebellion of the once powerful Clarendon, of Isla and Kintyre, Argyle finally wrested their ancient possessions from that tribe, and made them his own. We shall conclude with a single extract more.

"Tradition has preserved a curious anecdote connected with the Mackenzies, whose young chief, John of Kintail, was taken prisoner at Flodden. It will be recollected that Kenneth Oig Mackenzie of Kintail, while on his way to the Highlands, after making his escape from Edinburgh Castle, was killed in the Torwood, by the Laird of Buchanan.—(Supra, p. 93.) The foster-brother of Kenneth Oig was a man of the district of Kenlochew, named Donald Dubh Mac Gillecris Vic Gillereoch, who, with the rest of the clan, was at Flodden with his chief. In the retreat of the Scottish army, this Donald Dubh heard some one near him say—'Alas, laird! thou hast fallen!' On inquiry, he was told that it was the Laird of Buchanan, who had sunk from wounds or exhaustion. The faithful Highlander, eager to revenge the death of his chief and foster-brother, drew his sword, and, saying, 'If he hath not fallen, he shall fall,' made straight to Buchanan, whom he killed on the spot."

Again we commend this work to every library where history holds a shelf.

Rattlin, the Reefers. Edited by the Author of "Peter Simple." 3 vols. 12mo. London, 1836. Bentley.

There is a great deal of talent in these pages—talent of the acute, real, and forcible order. If we recollect aright, a portion of *Rattlin*

has appeared in the *Metropolitan Magazine*, under the title of "Scenes from the Life of a Sub-editor." The production itself is closely modelled on Captain Marryat's own: the scenes are such as he usually depicts, and the incidents of that ultra-romance he delights to depict. The first half of the first volume is capital; but the second set of school scenes are wire-drawn. The writer, however, gets to sea, and when the salt breeze freshens his sails there are some spirited marine sketches. The story itself is a succession of characteristic episodes; whence we take one of a beautiful Creole, with whom the young sailor has become acquainted.

"At sunset, Monsieur Manuel returned, led us into another apartment, where a not inelegant dinner was served up to us. Knowing the habits of my countrymen, we sat over some very superior claret, after Josephine had retired. I took this opportunity to reproach him, in the gentlest terms that I could use, with the dreadful ignorance in which he had suffered a creature so lovely and so superior to remain. His reply was a grimace, a hoisting of his shoulders above his head, an opening of his hands and fingers to their utmost extent, and a most pathetic '*Que voulez-vous?*' 'I will tell you, friend Manuel,' I answered, for his wine had warmed me much, his daughter more; 'I would have had her taught, at least, to read and write, that she had an immortal soul, a soul as precious to its Maker as it was to herself. I would have had her taught to despise such superstitious nonsense as obeism, mist-spirits, and all the pernicious jargon of spells and fetiches. I would, my dear Manuel, have made her a fit companion for myself; for, with such beauty and such a soul, I am convinced that she would realise female perfection as nearly as poor humanity is permitted to do.' '*Que voulez-vous?*' again met my ears; but it was attended by some attempt at justification of his very culpable remissness. He assured me, that, according to the laws, social as well as judicial, a person of her class, were she possessed of all the attributes of an angel, could never be received into white society nor wed with any but a person of colour. The light of education, he asserted, would only the more shew her her own degradation: he said he felt for her, deeply felt for her, and that he shuddered at the idea of his own death, for in that event he felt assured that she would be sold with the rest of the negroes on the estate, and be treated in all respects as a slave—and she had been so delicately nurtured. She had, indeed: her long white fingers and velvety hand bore sufficient testimony to this. 'But can you not manumit her?' said I. 'Impossible. When the island was more settled and better governed than now, the legal obstructions thrown in the way of the act were almost insuperable: at present it is impossible. I have no doubt that our bloodthirsty enemies, the Spaniards, who are our nearest neighbours, immediately you English leave the town, as you have dismantled our forts, and carried away almost all the male population captive, will come and take possession of this place—not that I care a sou for the brigands whom you have just routed out. I shall have to submit to the Spanish authority, and their slave laws are still more imperative than ours, though they invariably treat their slaves better than any other nation. No, there is no hope for poor Josephine.' 'Could you not send her to France?' '*Sacre Dieu!*' they guillotined all my relations, all my friends—all, all—and, my friend, I never made gold by taking a share

in those long low schooners that you have kindly taken under your care. I have some boxes of doubloons stowed away, it is true. But, after all, I am attached to this place; I could not sell the estate for want of a purchaser; and I am surrounded by such an infernal set of rascals, that I never could embark myself with my hard cash without being murdered. No, we must do at Rome as the Romans do.' 'A sweet specimen of a Roman you are,' thought I, and I fell into a short reverie; but it was broken up most agreeably by seeing Josephine trip before the open jealousies with a basket of flowers in her hand. She paused for a moment before us, and looked kindly at her father and smilingly at me. It was the first joyous, really joyous smile that I had seen in her expressive countenance. It went right to my heart, and brought with it a train of the most rapturous feelings. 'God bless her heart! I do love her dearly!' said the old man, 'I'll give you a convincing proof of it, my young friend Rattlin. Ah! bah—but you other English have spoiled all—you have taken him with you.' 'Who?' 'Why, Captain Durand. That large low black schooner was his. Yes, he would have treated her well (said Monsieur le Père, musing), and he offered to sign an agreement never to put her to field-work nor to have her flogged.' 'Put whom to field-work?—flog whom?' said I, all amazement. 'Josephine, to be sure: had you not taken him prisoner, I was going, next month, to sell her to him for two hundred doubloons.' 'Now, may God confound you for an unholy, unnatural villain!' said I, springing up, and overturning the table and wine into the fatherly lap of Monsieur Mannel. 'If you did not stand there, my host, I would, with my hand on your throat, force you on your knees to swear that—that you'll never sell poor, poor Josephine for a slave. Flog her!' said I, shuddering and the tears starting into my eyes—'I should as soon have thought of flogging an empress's eldest daughter.' 'Be pacified, my son,' said the old slave-dealer, deliberately clearing himself of the debris of the dessert—'be pacified, my son.' The words, 'my son,' went with a strange and cheering sound into my very heart's core. The associations that they brought with it were blissful—I listened to him with calmness. 'Be pacified, my son,' he continued, 'and I will prove to you that I am doing every thing for the best. The old colonel, our late governor, would have given three times the money for her. I could not do better than make her over to a kind-hearted man, who would use her well, and who, I think, is fond of her. Not to part with her for a heavy sum would be fixing a stigma upon her: and, wretched as all this reasoning appeared to be, I was convinced that the man had really meant to have acted kindly by selling his own daughter. What a pernicious, d—ble, atrocious social system that must have been where such a state of things existed! Reader, this same feature of slavery still exists,—and in free and enlightened America.'

We add the following striking remarks.

"I have said this much, because the early, very early part of my life was passed among what are reproachfully termed 'low people.' If I describe them faithfully, they must still appear low to those who arrogate to themselves the epithet of 'high.' For myself, I hold that there is nothing low under the sun, except meanness. Where there is utility, there ought to be honour. The utility of the humble artisan has never been denied, though too often

despised, and too rarely honoured; but I have found among the 'vulgar' a horror of meanness, a self-devotion, an unshrinking patience under privation, and the moral courage, that constitute the hero of high life. I can also tell the admirers of the great, that the evil passions of the vulgar are as gigantic, their wickedness upon as grand a scale, and their notions of vice as refined, and as extensive, as those of any fashionable *roué* that is courted among the first circles, or even as those of the crowned despot. Then, as to the strength of vulgar intellect.—True, that intellect is rarely cultivated by the learning which consists of words. The view it takes of science is but a partial glance—that intellect is contracted, but it is strong. It is a dwarf, with the muscle and sinews of a giant; and its grasp, whenever it can lay hold of any thing within its circumscribed reach, is tremendous. The general who has conquered armies and subjugated countries—the minister who has ruined them, and the jurist who has justified both, never at the crisis of their labours have displayed a tithe of the ingenuity, and the resources of mind, that many an artisan is forced to exert to provide daily bread for himself and family; or many a shopkeeper, to keep his connexion together, and himself out of the workhouse. Why should the exertions of intellect be termed low, in the case of the mechanic, and vast, profound, and glorious, in that of the minister? It is the same precious gift of a beneficent Power to all his creatures. As well may the sun be voted as excessively vulgar, because it, like intellect, assists all equally to perform their functions. I repeat, that nothing that has mind is, of necessity, low; and nothing is vulgar but meanness. * * *

"Misfortunes never come single. I don't know why they should. They are but scare-crow, lean-visaged, miserable associates, and so they arrive in a body to keep each other in countenance."

Ridicule.—"A real grief is armour-proof against ridicule."

The chief fault in the work is a want of compression; but it has many brilliant passages, and, if by a new hand, makes us augur well of the future. We should notice, in the way of novel Novelty, that this Novel is adorned with prints, cleverly drawn and etched by Kerwell.

TEN POEMS. Batch the Second.

1. *Lays of the Heart.* By J.S.C. Pp. 97. (London, Smith, Elder, and Co.)—Contains several passages of true poetry. "The Bruised Reed" is very beautiful; but the thoughts are scarcely simple enough to be uttered by a child. We have great hopes of one day seeing the author of these poems occupy a very respectable station in the literature of this country. We believe he has the true requisites for the calling. A little more study, a closer attention to the rhythm, and the rejection of such words as '*bulbul*, '*velkin*,' &c., and he will produce some of the most tender English ballads of the day.

2. *Douglas, a Poem.* Pp. 64. (London, Renshaw.)—A poem without an atom of poetry; full of foolish conceits and mysterious nonsense. Take the opening of Canto I. as a specimen:—

"Upon an island, lone, and drear, and wild,
Resting on ocean's bosom as her child,
Though fondly repaying mother's care,
As these a place of islands the most bare."
We offer any of our readers a sovereign who can explain the last two lines, such is the beautiful incomprehensibility thrown around them. We fancy we see the author laying down his pen, and chuckling to himself after having written them, and exclaiming, "Here is a beauty and a mystery!" "The most bare," certainly; excepting, perhaps, the barrenness of the writer's brains.

Author of *Douglas*, flat, and stale, and mild,
"This hoped thou art not weaned! Oh, pap-mouthed child!"

3. *The Tale of the White Rose.* By Richard Whiffin. Pp. 61. (London, Day.)—The story of Cambuscan, altered and continued from Chaucer, and bearing marks of having been done by a master-hand. Let not its pamphlet-like appearance prejudice any reader against its perusal. It is seldom that so much genuine poetry comes to hand under such a humble wrapper. The eleventh page alone will speak more in the author's favour than any praise which we can give him:—

"We grew together as two stems entwined,
And read each will in one another's mind;
Rocked in the same arms by one foster dame,
You'd deemed our being but a parted flame;
Bred in one bosom, we would leave the stream
Of life, to catch each other's smiling beam;
Back to our nutrient the child, o'er blest,
And in one cot she nestled us to rest.
Grown older, still our bed, our joys were one,
We fled the storm together, or the sun,
Watch'd o'er each other's sleep; befall disease,
The lesser sufferer was the least at ease;
One bed, one board, almost one robe; we'd share
The self-same riband on the waist we wear;
Assorted colours, and would kinder view
The happier tint which her associate drew:
Our studies were the same, our taste for flowers—
As shewed the festoons that adorned our bowers;
Together ran to watch the first star rise,
Together sat to watch the first star rise;
Nothing could charm, the other had not part,
And hand in hand, and heart was locked in heart.
Thus to fifteen we blended every joy—
Alas! such sweet emotions ere should cloy,
Or be estranged! yet change they undergo;
Ah! such mutations wait on all below."

The whole contains passages of sterling poetry; though, perhaps, the English construction wants polish.
4. *Alceis; or, Love's Triumph.* By Joseph Middleton. Pp. 112. (London, J. Noble.)—The author should have read a little more before he attempted scenes

"Where throngs of knights and barons bold"
are to become actors. He lacks the fire of soul necessary for the stirring time which he so feebly draws. The old barons were, not namby-pamby gentlemen, who would talk sentiment like the hero of a modern novel; neither were their daughters such milk-and-water ladies as to sit down and cry when they were about to be married. There was more of the moving of the lordly lion in their actions; a battle-axe or a beef-steak was taken up, without making a speech about either of them. The whizzing of an arrow, or the sound of a silver snarling trumpet, would not much discompose the order of a breakfast; smelling-bottles and fainting-fits were not in vogue; and the young ladies of that day were better hands at buckling on a lover's armour, than sighing out their souls in gripping sonnets. Mr. Middleton wants the energy and enthusiasm which find their way to the reader's heart, to make his works popular. He lacks not the art—the knack of rhyming, and the melody, but the fire from heaven, such as gave life to the statue of Pygmalion. Let him steal from the gods, for earth contains not the principle necessary to make him a poet: we fear he has not the real calling.

5. *The Anglo-Polish Harp.* By Jacob Jones, Esq. Pp. 100. (London, Pickering.)—We cannot say much in its favour. We have rarely met with an incident so favourable for the foundation of a poem as the one mentioned in the 25th note; yet, how indifferently it is worked out in the stanzas entitled, "Emeline's Dream." These are things in which the power of a poet may be discovered; never-failing tests, where genius exists, of calling it forth into action. And yet, we look in vain for the "fine frenzy" of Ali, in the midnight, when the spirit of his wife glides into the room; we find not the confusion of the harem in these verses. We have none of the stirring scenes depicted, and why? *Puritan sera decet.*

6. *Lays for Light Hearts.* By J. E. Carpenter. Pp. 116. (London, R. Willoughby.)—The author is a volunteer in that corps of which T. Haynes Bayley is drill-sergeant. We speak it without any disparagement to that gentleman; but we believe his style has been the means of calling up more of the short-lived ephemera than any writer of the day. What hundreds of authors have we who emerge from their wormy existence, and flutter away in two sheets 12mo. for two hours, and, unless they are picked up in the beak of some swallow-critic, where they are ground for a few hours in the gravel of digestion, die away, and are heard of no more. Mr. Carpenter is one of the longer-lived of this species; for we perceive that this is his second work, and are very sorry to see so little improvement in it.

7. *The Athorpe Picture Gallery, and other Poems.* By a Lady. Pp. 164. (Edinburgh, Blackwood; Aberdeen, Brown and Co.; London, Longman.)—An odd assemblage of good and bad stanzas; sometimes abounding in thoughts which remind one of Byron, then sinking down to commonplace expressions. We could extract passages that would not disgrace our best modern poets, or point out others that would reflect no credit on a school-boy's first attempt. Whoever the author may be, she seems to be in possession of the poetic talisman, although her mind is at present a rude chaos. Still, there are the proper materials for future creations; some of them, even in their confused state, bear traces of their destined beauty. We wonder how one who has produced proofs that she can write so well, should have allowed so much that is bad to appear. Wishing that she may be more attentive, in cutting down unnecessary words, paying a little more attention to the correctness of the rhymes, and not be so profuse of her really beautiful images, we shall look out with hope for her next production.

8. *The Professions, with other Pieces, in Verse.* Pp. 98. (London, B. Fellows.)—Have nothing to recommend them unless it be their abuse of Church, Law, Army, and Navy. The author appears to be some disappointed aspirant to church preferment, who, having failed in the attempt, has vented his chagrin in verses as stupid as they are nonsensical. A tenth-rate cad to a Jarvey would beat him in lashing the poor parsons.

9. *Gaspironi, and other Poems.* By J. F. Brown. Pp. 106. (London, G. Meggs.)—Rough and unfinished in the extreme, but abounding frequently in poetical thoughts. Many of the passages remind us forcibly of Clare. A little more attention to the polishing of the stanzas, and the author may become a tolerable song writer. We give a specimen.

"King Death."

"I am Death, king of kings! and my reign began
With the birth of Sin, and the fall of man;
Where famine and ruin together make sport,
I hold my black standard and summon my court—
For I am King Death!"

"What matters an age or an empire to me,
I am Lord of the Earth, and I rule o'er the Sea;
The king in his palace, the worm in its clod,
The oak of the hills, and the grass of the sod—
For I am King Death!"

"I mingle my gall in the waters of strife,
And I roll their dark waves with the tempests of life;
The proudest dynasties I've crumbled to dust,
While I rain'd my black hail o'er the hearts of the just—
For I am King Death!"

"Old age would fain mock me, I level my dart;
Youth claims his acquaintance with love, and I start;
But when he has run his wild course of delight,
I lift up my icy-cold hand and I smile—
For I am King Death!"

"The atheist sits in the seat of the scorners,
And weeps at his stubbornness; I am no mourner;
I smile while he curses, and laugh at their trouble,
Who hope against hope; and I burst the bright bubble—
For I am King Death!"

"Time and Life are bold fellows! but I care for neither,
The prince with the peasant I yoke to my tether;
The proud with the abject I make draw together,
In a land where the sun never lit up the heather—
For I am King Death!"

"The religious man's hope I bruise as a reed;
The mighty man's courage I root as a weed;
The upright may smile, and submit like a man,
Defy me, and mock me—but triumph who can?
For I am King Death!"

"I am Death, king of kings! and Despair is my brother;
Sin founded my kingdom, the world knows no other;
Where famine and ruin together make sport,
I hold my black banner, and summon my court—
For I am King Death!"

10. *Poetic Illustrations of the Bible History.* By the Rev. John Holt Simpson, A.M. Pp. 88. (London, Seeley.)—We consider this work in every sense a failure. It is very difficult to improve upon the beautiful simplicity of the Bible. We doubt not, for a moment, the purity of the author's motives. Take, as an instance, the following dialogue, and compare it with the 18th chapter of Samuel, where the soldier meets with Joab, and informs him, that Absalom is suspended in the oak.

"Joab.—Who saw him? when, and where?
Soldier.—This morn, my lord, I saw him, near the copse-
place, there."

Joab.—Suspended, didst thou say?
Soldier.—My lord, above the ground,
His body hangs upon a branch, his hair around!!!
Again, with rapid strides, they quickly reach the wood,
and see

The wretched youth now writhe in latest agony.
His spirit still was conscious, and his soul awoke,
As Joab, in his fiercest anger, thus bespoke:
How very comfortable Joab's speech must have sounded to a man suspended from a tree, writhing "in latest agony." Read the opening lines.

"Joab.—At length I've found thee, rebel! Oh, thou traitor knave!
Thou art not meet to be thy father's meanest slave!"
We are *nolle prosequi*; and shall leave the rest to those whom these extracts may interest. They remind us terribly of old Zachary Boyd, of Glasgow.

The Rambler in Mexico: 1834. By J. C. Latrobe, author of "The Alpenstock," &c. 8vo. pp. 300. London, 1836. Seeley and Burnside.

Narratives of South America, Illustrating Manners, Customs, and Scenery, &c. By C. Empson. 8vo. pp. 322. London, 1836. Edwards.

MR. LATROBE is advantageously known to the literary world as one of the most agreeable and instructive of travellers. There is a simplicity in his descriptions which is beautiful, a truth in his narratives which stamps them with strong interest; and yet, the whole is sufficiently coloured by feeling and imagination to enhance the gratification which his writings invariably afford. His *Rambles in Mexico* fully partake of these good qualities, and is truly a work of various and pleasing character.

Landing in the Gulf of Mexico from the goelette Halcyon, our author went to Tampico, crossed the Tierras, &c. to the Real del Monte mines, thence to Mexico, made excursions about the environs, saw Cholula, the pyramids, la Puebla, and finally returned by Jalapa to Vera Cruz, and embarked. For the present week we can only select a few brief examples from the stores of curious and entertaining observation which these pages afford. We commence with some general remarks.

"It is evident, that the lamentable effects of the political state of the country, and the constant struggle between parties for mastery, are felt throughout the whole structure of society. There is no frankness and no forgiveness between those who are for the moment in power, and those who have in any way shewn favour to another modification of the constitution, or abetted other rules. The instant that the struggle is at an end by the defeat of the one, the other takes advantage of its victory to crush their humbled adversary by confiscation, exile, and domestic oppression. Unhappy Mexico! No sooner has a government seemed to be fairly seated, and felt itself called to exercise authority and to enforce the laws, but some discontented partisan runs off to a distance from the capital—gets a band of malcontents together; sets up a *grito*, or bark, to give warning that something is brewing; follows it up in due time by a *pronunciamiento* against the existing rulers; proposes a modification of the constitution; and, collecting an army, makes a dash at the metropolis. Perhaps, as was the fate of Canalizza's party, while we were in the country, he gets beaten on his way, and, running abroad to escape the vengeance of his conqueror, leaves his adherents to make their peace as well as they may:—perhaps, like the hero of the day, Santa Anna, he succeeds, and gets possession of the presidential chair, to be kicked out in his turn, without a shadow of doubt, sooner or later. It would fill a volume, and be a perfect jest-book, to give a history of all the changes experienced by this country since the expulsion of the Spaniards; and the real intentions, ends, and characters of those by whom they have been brought about. The most serious evil is, that, in this state of affairs, nothing can be accounted stable.

"Among other signs of the weakness of the existing government, the neglect and the decay of many of the public institutions are not to be overlooked. The importance of the mint to the revenues of the country, renders its maintenance an object of state policy; but the university, the museum, the public library, the splendid mineria, or schools of the mines, many of the noble hospitals of Spanish foundation, and the academy of arts, were, at the time of our visit, in a state of general neglect shameful to the government and people. The botanic garden, which occupies an interior court of the palace, is also but indifferently maintained under the care of an old badger of a functionary, who will make you up a packet of the most vulgar and ordinary garden-seeds, and charge you fifty dollars for it, with the best assurance of conscience in the world. But to go into the details of these matters, would be to write a book instead of a letter. Though in the last degree of confusion, the museum, which is to be found in the palace, presents a scene of great interest; as, besides a multitude of rare and unique works illustrative of the history of the country, and a great quantity of the most curious antiquities, it contains many of the most remarkable records of the conquest. But all are in the most appalling disorder—a

disorder which has, by the by, favoured numerous thefts. The same observation applies to the state of the more massive antiquities which have been, from time to time, brought to light; such as the stone of sacrifice, the feathered serpent, the idol goddess of war, and many others, all of which have been described at large a hundred times. There they lie, half-covered with dust, dirt, and rubbish, in a corner of the court of the university."

In the excursion to the lake of Tezcuco, Mr. Latrobe says:—

"I have made you attentive to the gradual change which has been operated in the surface of the Valley of Mexico, from the retirement of its waters within narrower bounds. At what time, or under what circumstances, those waters first overflowed the country, it was to be expected that even tradition would be silent, when it is recollected, that the people through whose medium the few traditions we possess were transmitted to our knowledge, had only occupied the Valley for a few brief generations. But that there was a time, however remote, at which the waters, if they existed at all, occupied a much lower level than even at the present day; at the same time that the continent was in the occupation of people considerably advanced in the rude arts of semi-civilisation, would seem to be an incontrovertible fact. Some time before our visit, a number of workmen were employed on the neighbouring estate of Chapingo, to excavate a canal over that part of the plain from which the waters have gradually retired during the last three centuries. At four feet below the surface they reached an ancient causeway, of the existence of which there was, of course, not the most remote suspicion. The cedar piles, by which the sides were supported, were still sound at heart. Three feet below the edge of this ancient work, in what may have been the very ditch, they struck upon the entire skeleton of a mastodon, embedded in the blue clay. Many of the most valuable bones were lost by the careless manner in which they were extricated; others were ground to powder on their conveyance to the capital; but sufficient remained to prove that the animal had been of great size. My informant measured the diameter of the tusk, and found it to be eighteen inches. The number of the remains of this huge animal found on the table-land of Mexico, and in the Valley itself, is astonishing. Indeed, wherever extensive excavations have been made of late years, they have been almost always met with. In digging the foundations of the present great church at Guadalupe, many were brought to the surface. Mr. W., of the Hacienda of San Nicholas, four leagues to the south, in forming an excavation for an engine-house, found others. A friend of mine in the capital received, while we were there, portions of a skeleton from Guadalupe; and I was informed, that in a neighbouring state there exists a barranca, which, from the quantity of these colossal remains which are there found, the Indians have named the Barranca de los Gigantes."

We must now conclude with the notice of a stone, almost as supernatural as that of Blarney.

"By some unaccountable forgetfulness we left the Teocallis without visiting the so-called 'Fainting Stone,' which lies in the hollow between two of the smaller pyramids at the foot of the House of the Moon. It is a large square mass with a sculptured face; and the popular belief with regard to it is, that any one sitting down on it faints dead away. We heard one anecdote, singularly confirmatory of this in-

credible tradition, from some of our European acquaintances in Mexico, and, therefore, regretted the more having been so neglectful as to have omitted to set the matter at rest by our own experience."

From Mr. Empson, who resided four years in these regions, we can only give the following specimen of his miscellaneous book:—

The river Claro, a tributary to the Magdalena, "is not the most important, but it is one of the most admired of the tributary streams. Its waters are beautifully transparent, and, as if unwilling to blend with the less pure current of the Magdalena, they expand at the point of junction into a broad placid lake. It is remarkable that, although the caiman, or alligator, does not ascend the Claro, the lake swarms with them. They may be seen in countless numbers, and might be mistaken for trees recently felled, with their bark still fresh and green, united in rafts for floating down the stream, so closely are they wedged together. These vigilant monsters are so still, that, when lurking for their prey, they will suffer a barge to graze against their impenetrable coats of mail, without quitting their station. Fortunately, they never attempt to invade the boats; but, if any thing acceptable to them falls overboard, or is thrown into the lake, they boldly snatch the food, regardless of the shouts, and, in some cases, of the blows inflicted by the boatman's pole. A poor girl who had been tempted to gather guavas from a tree which overhung the water, fell from a branch, and was snatched by one of these dreadful animals; her brother saw the horrid spectacle, and gave an alarm, but it was in vain—the damsel was seen no more. Great anxiety prevailed to destroy this monster, for it was believed that he would return to the precise spot, and wait for other prey. Thousands of bullets were fired at every caiman which made its appearance, in the hope of avenging the poor girl's death; but the balls glanced from the bronze backs of the impervious creatures. They are only vulnerable in two places—the eye, and the soft elastic skin between the fore-shoulder and the trunk: their eyes are small, and generally half-shut. The other point of attack is only exposed when the animal moves on land, or basks on the sand of the small islands, which, continually shifting, always defeat every attempt to make a regular chart of the Magdalena. On these small islands, or sand-banks, the alligators deposit their eggs, which are not much larger than those of the swan. The colour is a dirty, dull, pale green; the surface is not rough, nor is it polished like the eggs of a bird, but harsh and unpleasant to the touch, like the surface of a recently fractured block of marble. The sunbeams hatch the young caimans, whose first care, on issuing from the egg, is to escape from their dreadful parents. The rapid movements of the active offspring are their best protector; for the full-grown animal cannot turn with facility, and the young avail themselves of their instinctive knowledge of this peculiarity to elude the murderous jaws, which are ever open to destroy their own race. The caiman is very cowardly; rather skulking and snatching its prey by stealth, than venturing upon an attack where resistance can be made. We have seen them captured by the most simple weapons—ropes and staves. The former are noosed like the lasso, and cast over the indolent unwieldy animal; the latter are employed to secure the ropes, gag the caiman, and break his ponderous jaw. This achievement is not, however, frequently witnessed, as it requires a coincidence of favourable circum-

stances; the animal must be found asleep, or when he is in a supine state after gorging a heavy meal; he must be without companions, which is very rare; and the situation in which he is to be surprised must afford a safe approach: not less than ten men, of unflinching courage and practised in the sport, are required to insure success. Occasionally, a good marksman does send a bullet into the brain through the orbit of the eye, which causes instant death: but such is the general horror and dread of these formidable creatures, that the capture or death of an alligator is an event which the natives celebrate with tumultuous rejoicings.

We found it expedient to remain for three days at Cara, a neighbouring village: we there noticed the body of an alligator which had recently been destroyed: some sharp instrument had apparently been thrust into its mouth, for the lacerated tongue was nearly torn out, and the blood had flown so rapidly, that the sand, though hot, had not yet absorbed it. The creature lay imbedded in its own dark clotted gore; it had evidently been dragged from the bank of the river. A number of bald vultures were eyeing us, anxious, no doubt, to commence their feast the moment we departed. The dogs, fearless of man, had already taken hasty snatches at the tongue, and growled when we beat them off from their meal, which we effected in order to procure a tooth for each person of our party. It was difficult to break the firmly fixed teeth, as we had nothing but smooth pebbles to use as hammers: to dislodge the tusks from the enormous jaws was impracticable. We counted seventy of these destructive teeth in the head of the animal, which was twelve feet long. A sharply defined projecting row of pyramidal scales extended from the head to the tail: its fore-feet were covered with a substance so hard, that a pen-knife was broken in an attempt to cut a portion. The hinder legs are much longer, and armed with more formidable claws. Our further investigation was interrupted by a party advancing with rapidity, and evidently under great excitement: a female, with dishevelled hair, her eyes lighted up with a triumphant expression, and brandishing a bloody spear, shouted, in a voice rendered hoarse by exertion, 'I have killed the caiman!—I—I have killed the caiman!' She struck the dead animal with her rude weapon: when she could no longer articulate words, passionate bursts of the wildest grief succeeded, till, quite exhausted, she fainted, and was carried senseless to the village by her friends. We soon learnt the cause of the bitter anguish we had witnessed. 'That poor woman,' said a person who was left in charge of the dead caiman, 'gets her living by carrying water from the river to the village. Some years ago, her daughter was snatched by a caiman, and seen no more: this morning Barranca, as we call her from the place where her family lived, was stooping to fill her calabash, just where the water is shadowed by the mangroves, when her infant son fell into the stream, and was instantly snapped in two by a lurking alligator. Barranca fearlessly rushed into the river, and saved the remnant of her child from becoming food to the hateful destroyer. Barranca's was an act of frightful daring; and had any one been present, they would, no doubt, have prevented it; but she was always at her employment before the other villagers, and thus it was this disastrous morning. From long familiarity with the habits of the caiman, Barranca well knew the method of capturing it; but, except under the impulse of delirious desperation,

she could never have done as she did. She ran home, and, taking the hunting-spear which had been her husband's, she fastened two sharp knives and the blade of a razor to its pointed head, and baited this weapon with all that remained of her own sweet babe. She stationed herself in ambush behind a tree, to which she secured the instrument of death by a coil of rope; she carefully watched till she could allure the identical caiman, which, after having tasted once such a tempting morsel, was sure to lie in wait near the spot, for a second. She was successful in her dreadful experiment; and with temporary strength, exceeding her usual power, she dragged the monster from its element, and saw it expire."

The Life of William the Third, King of Great Britain and Ireland, &c. By John Ryan, Esq. M.R.S.L., author of the "History and Antiquities of the County of Carlow," &c. 8vo. pp. 371. Dublin, 1836. Grant and Bolton.

THE contents of this volume are not of an order best suited to our pages. "The glorious and immortal memory," &c. involves a discussion, from which we always abstain. We shall only observe, therefore, that Mr. Ryan is a thorough-going Orange-Tory, and writes on a subject which calls up all his enthusiasm. On the literary portion of his work, he has possessed much industry; and we doubt not that it will become very popular with the party to whom it is addressed. To avoid all dissenting ground, we shall just select one or two anecdotes. How characteristic is the following remark of William on Charles's wavering and changeable councils:—

"When Mr. Hyde had withdrawn, the prince lifted up his hands two or three times, and said: 'Was ever any thing so hot and so cold as this court of yours? Will the king, who has been so often at sea, never learn a word that I shall never forget since my last passage? When in a great storm, the captain was all night crying out to the man at the helm, 'Steady, steady, steady!' If this despatch had come twenty days ago, it had changed the affairs in Christendom, and the war might have been carried on till France had yielded to the treaty of the Pyrenees, and left the world in quiet for the rest of our lives. As it comes now, it will have no effect at all; at least, that is my opinion, though I would not say so to Mr. Hyde.' The event proved that his opinion was perfectly just."

Anecdote.—"His highness fully performed his duty as a consummate general and brave soldier; he frequently rallied his troops and renewed the charge; but being, at length, borne away by the flight of his men, he attacked them, sword in hand, as enemies, and cutting one across the face, cried out, aloud, 'Rascal, I'll set a mark on thee at least, that I may hang thee afterwards.'"

Instance of his Resolution.—"Sir William stated the danger to which Flanders was exposed in the next campaign, when his highness observed: 'The appearances were ill, but that campaigns did not always end as they began: that accidents might happen which no man could foresee, and that, if they came to one fair battle, none could answer for the event: that the king might make the peace, if he pleased, before it began; but if the English were so indifferent as to let this season pass, for his part he was obliged to go on and take his fortune: that he had that very morning seen a poor old man tugging alone a little boat with his oars against the eddy of a sluice upon a

canal; that when with the last efforts he had just got up to the place intended, the force of the eddy carried him quite back again, and thus it happened three or four times while the prince saw him; and he concluded that this old man's business and his were too like one another, and that we ought, however, to do just as the old man did, without knowing what would succeed, any more than the poor man did.'"

We have always estimated William III. by a high standard. He had no picturesque qualities; but he had many great ones. We do not know in all history a finer instance of self-devotion than his defiance to *le grand monarque*; and the annals of Rome have no speech more Roman than that of the young prince who said that, "rather than see the ruin of his country, he would die in her last ditch!"

Narrative of a Journey from Lima to Para, &c. [Second and concluding notice.]

THE padre with whom our countrymen were delayed, as we mentioned in our first review of this work, gave a very interesting account of the Indian tribes on the banks of the Ucayali, which are very numerous, and, in general, savages. It ran thus:—

"The Mayorunas, or, as they are sometimes called, Barbudos, are the most northern tribe east of the Ucayali, and are very numerous; they inhabit the district lying between the Yavari and the Ucayali, as far as Tapiche on the latter, and to the eighth degree of south latitude on the former. They are of a light olive complexion, taller than most of the other tribes, and go perfectly naked. Their houses are like those of the other Indians. They are very warlike, and in amity with no other tribe: they do not use bows and arrows, but only spears, lances, clubs, and cerbatanas; the poison they make is esteemed the most powerful of any. They are well formed, and the women particularly so in their hands and feet; they have rather straight noses and small lips; they cut the hair in a line across the forehead, and let it hang down their backs; and wear ornaments in the nostrils and lips, which are always bored, and necklaces and armlets of monkeys' teeth. Their cleanliness is remarkable—a quality for which this tribe alone is distinguished. They have, almost all of them, Christian names, but have never been converted to Christianity. They are in constant hostility with the tribes who live higher up the Ucayali, and take good care to prevent any strangers from encamping on the eastern bank of the lower part of that river. In their hunting excursions through the forest, they are extremely careful to obliterate all traces of their route, insomuch that the most experienced Indian, unless he falls in with one of their villages, cannot perceive the least track to indicate that the place is inhabited. At Yapaya we saw a woman of this tribe, a captive, who had been recently taken; she appeared very sullen and gloomy: and at Omaguas, we saw a man and two young female captives. The language of these people is that which is most generally in use on the Ucayali, viz. the Pano. Next come the Capanaguas, who occupy the land between the Tapiche and the Sencis mountains: these are always at war with their neighbours, the Sencis and Mayorunas. They go quite naked, and are said to be a bold race, but have no canoes, and are not numerous, consequently not much feared. Padre Plaza contradicts Lieutenant Maw's account of their eating the dead bodies of their parents. The Sencis are a bold, warlike, and generous tribe, and inhabit the mountainous country a little to the north-

east of Sarayacu; although not converted to Christianity, they are upon friendly terms with the Indians of the Mission, and occasionally come in large numbers to Sarayacu to barter for iron, beads, and other articles. Padre Plaza had travelled all over their territory, and was well received by them. He describes them as the greatest warriors on the Ucayali, and as considering courage as the first, if not the only, virtue worthy of a man. They are well armed, and use bows, arrows, lances, clubs, and a weapon called a kova, which is sharp at one end, so as to be used as a short spear; and the other end, which is thicker, serves for a club, and is rendered more formidable by having four sharp antlers of a stag fixed down its side at the distance of about two inches from each other; the centre of the weapon is fancifully ornamented with beautiful feathers. They also carry a knife, and a small circular shield made of hide. They commence their battles with their bows and arrows, the latter of which are soon expended, for they carry no more than three or four of them; and as soon as they are discharged, the lance and kova are used for close quarters. They give no quarter, and take no prisoners in the battle, which does not end till the field is cleared by the extermination or flight of one party. The women and children are taken for slaves, and if there are any in infancy, or much advanced in age, they are killed as useless. The padre gave us an account of the manner in which these people put his courage to the test when he first entered their country, and was made prisoner by them. As he understood their language, he was able to explain to them the object of his visit: they conducted him to their village, and asked him whether he was brave, and subjected him to the following trial. Eight or ten men, armed with bows and arrows, placed themselves a few yards in front of him, with their bows drawn and their arrows directed at his breast; they then, with a shout, let go the strings, but retained the arrows in their left hands, which he at first did not perceive, but took it for granted that it was all over with him, and was astonished at finding himself unhurt. He thinks that, if he had shewn any signs of fear, he would probably have been despatched. Having withstood the feat steadily, they gave him a second trial: they resumed their former position, and approaching somewhat nearer; they aimed their arrows at his body, but discharged them close to his feet. He assured us that it was very nervous work; but, having, in his capacity of missionary, been a long time subjected to the caprices of the Indians, he had made up his mind for the worst, and stood quite motionless during the proof. As the Indians saw no symptoms of fear in him, they surrounded him, and received him as a welcome guest; the women made their appearance, and the ceremony concluded with deep potations of masata and dancing. The Sencis are agriculturists, and very industrious; they hold and cultivate the land in common, and grow maize, bananas, plantains, and yucas: all persons are obliged to labour in its cultivation; and those who are idle, and indisposed to do their fair share of the work, are killed as useless members of society. They have a considerable knowledge of the properties of herbs and plants, and apply them with skill and success to their wounds and ailments. They wear ornaments of beads, fastened through the septum of the nose, and hung round the neck and arms. At home they go entirely naked, but when they visit the Mission they put on the frock worn by the

inhabitants of Sarayacu, but cannot submit to the incumbrance of any further clothing. One of this tribe, who had taken up his abode at Sarayacu, and was a very active, intelligent man, seeing us one evening taking observations for the latitude of the place, appeared very anxious to know what we were about; but as an interpreter was necessary between us, and we had one who was by no means master of the language in which it was necessary to communicate with either of us, it may be supposed that the poor Sencis did not get any very clear idea of an observation for the latitude. He, however, began to display his own astronomical knowledge, and gave us the Indian names for several stars, which we took down, and the padre afterwards gave us the explanation of. They were the following:—

Canopus	Noteste	Thing of the Day.
Sirius	Capaygul	Little Alligator.
Gemini	Kooros	The Cross.
Jupiter	Ishmawook	
Mars	Tapa	Forward.
Regulus	Pijarte	Arrow.
Orion (rigil)	Manasang	Land Tortoise.
Capella	Cuchara	Spoon.
The Southern Cross	Nebo	Dewfall.
Orion's Belt	Kishumah	
Procyon	Chiska	
Scorpio	Vaca Marina	Manatee.

Their observations of the heavenly bodies are limited to noticing that, when certain stars appear, certain fruits and animals are in season. Their notion of an eclipse has a curious similarity to that of the Chinese: when the sun is covered by the moon's disk, they suppose him to be struggling with some savage beast; and shout to encourage him, and make all the noise they can, with the view of frightening his antagonist, and discharge burning arrows towards him. When the eclipse is over, the usual course of drinking and dancing begins, and is kept up during the remainder of the day and the following night. The appearance of the new moon is hailed with great joy; they make long addresses to her, imploring her protection, and that she will be so good as to invigorate their bodies. During these harangues they throw themselves into a variety of attitudes and vehement gesticulations. They use canoes, and during the dry season, when the rivers are low, live principally on fish. The passage in the Appendix to Lieutenant Maw's work, page 469, which states that the Sencis burn their dead and drink their ashes, is, according to Padre Plaza, incorrect; he asserts that they, like all the other tribes, bury them. The tribe to the south of the Sencis are called Remos; they are a numerous and high-couraged race, and occupy a large tract of the inland country, and seldom come down to the river. They are very savage, and at enmity with the Mission, and allow no strangers to enter their territory. They very much resemble the Sencis in all their habits, and, with the exception of the kowa and shield, use the same weapons; they ornament themselves in the same way, and there is very little difference between their dialects and those of the Pano. We saw several of them at Sarayacu, who had been made captives when young. They are reckoned the fairest of all the tribes, but their countenances are by no means the best favoured; their face is rounder than that of the others; their eyes bear a considerable resemblance to those of the Chinese, and their stature is, in general, very short. Next to the Remos come the Amajucas, towards the south, and extend as far as the Vuelta del Diablo, which is the first impediment to the navigation of the Ucayali. They have been repeatedly converted (or rather pretended to be converted)

to Christianity, but have more than once murdered their priests, and returned to their barbarous state. From their apparently docile and quiet manner, the missionaries conceived great hopes of them, but found themselves most cruelly deceived. They are said to be short, and to have beards. The western side of the Ucayali, from the Vuelta del Diablo to the junction of the Pachitea, is an uninhabited ridge of mountains, gradually decreasing as they approach the confluence of that river with the Ucayali. Behind, or to the westward of this ridge, are the Cashibos, or Callisecas, or Carapachis. Their territory extends along the Pampa del Sacramento to the heads of the rivers Aguaytia and Pisqui. No probable estimate can be formed of their numbers, for no one dare venture among them; and they live scattered about in their forests like wild beasts. The padre thinks that their population has increased of late, for they have advanced to, and taken possession of, the country round the heads of the Aguaytia and Pisqui. It is said that about forty years ago they inhabited the banks of the Huallago; but from the constant annoyance of the civilised Indians on that river, they quitted that station, and concentrated themselves on the Pachitea, where the greatest number of them are now to be found. Having no canoes, they never quit their district; but they navigate the Pachitea and Aguaytia on balsas, or rafts. They have the reputation of being cannibals; and the fact seems to be well established. All the neighbouring Indians agree in the assertion; and if it wanted confirmation, it was, to our minds, sufficiently corroborated by an anecdote, related to us by Padre Plaza, of a Cashibo boy whom he had in the convento, who one day expressed a great desire to eat one of his companions, and was actually proceeding to cut his throat with a knife, which he was prevented from doing: when remonstrated with upon the atrocity of the act, he seemed by no means conscious of its impropriety, and said, 'Why not? he is very good to eat.' The padre, horrified at the propensities of the young cannibal, immediately sent him away from the Mission. One of this tribe, a grown-up young man, about nineteen years of age, who had been captured when young, was brought to Sarayacu as a slave to some Conibos, who came on a visit while we were there. His appearance and manner differed from those of any Indians we had seen; he was much more restless, and had a haughty kind of air. The notion which prevails of their devouring persons of their own tribe, to any extent, or as a regular article of food, seems to be sufficiently contradicted by the increase of their population. The men are said to have long beards, and both sexes wear clothes—the men a frock fashioned like that of the neighbouring tribes, and the married women a waistcloth, but until marriage they are unincumbered with any sort of clothing. The men are very dexterous in hunting, and are extremely wary when they suspect that any of another tribe are looking out for them. It is said that when a Cashibo is pursuing the chase in the woods, and hears another hunter imitating the cry of an animal that he is in pursuit of, he immediately makes the same cry for the purpose of enticing the other within his reach, and, if he is of another tribe, kills him, if he can, and eats him. They are thus in a state of deadly hostility with all their neighbours, and are so skillful in imitating the cries of various animals, that it is difficult for the most practised ear to detect the deception. They have large houses, like those at

Sarayacu, and, during the rainy season, live in the interior of the country; but in the dry time, like the other tribes, resort to the banks of the rivers for the purpose of fishing, and live there in temporary huts. Their weapons are clubs, lances, and bows and arrows—the latter of larger dimensions than those of any of the other tribes, the bow being nine feet in length, and the arrow in proportion. The Shipibos, Setebos, and Conibos, who inhabit the Pampa to the north of the Cashibos, are all well disposed towards the Mission, and most of them profess the Christian religion. They are represented as quiet tractable people, and spend a part of the year at Sarayacu. The Maparis and Puinans are very little known, but they are said to be very harmless and very dirty; they keep to the centre of the plain, in the northern part of it, and are not numerous, and but rarely seen by the mission Indians. The padre stated (in contradiction to what is said in the 'Mercurio Peruano'), that none of these tribes have any chief, but live in a state of perfect equality; and that even in their incursions against their enemies they have no leader, but each warrior acts individually, and takes to his own separate use whatever plunder or prisoners he can capture. They are all short in stature, but we did meet with one of the Piro tribe at Tepishka who measured six feet. It is stated in the 'Mercurio Peruano' that polygamy is never allowed, except to the chiefs; but by Padre Plaza's account, it prevails among all the savage tribes, and few wild Indians, who can get more, are satisfied with one wife. The Conibos and Remos suppose themselves to have been called into existence by a man endued with miraculous powers, who, striking the earth forcibly with his foot, called them forth from its bosom; but they pay no adoration to him, or visible mark of respect to his memory. They believe in the existence of an evil being, whose malignity they deprecate by the intervention of their priests, who, no doubt, take care to turn this notion to their own advantage. In their courtship, the man pays great attention to the object of his choice; he usually fixes upon her when very young, and, having obtained her father's consent to the match, he supports her till the marriage takes place: in the intermediate time he is very particular in his attention to her, and brings her a number of favourite animals and birds to rear, which are to be slaughtered for the wedding-feast; and he supplies her with the choicest food he can procure. The marriage ceremony itself is very short: all the friends of both parties are invited to it; a toldo, or musquito curtain, is suspended in the middle of the house, and a mattress, consisting of bark beaten soft, is laid beneath it; the guests dance round the toldo, and get pretty well intoxicated, for a good supply of liquor is indispensable on such occasions. The bride is then conducted to the toldo by her parents, and placed under it; and shortly after the bridegroom raises one side of it, creeps in and across his bride, and slips out immediately on the other side. The curtain is then removed, and the rest of the evening is spent in dancing, rioting, drunkenness, and fighting, in which amusements (with the exception, perhaps, of the last) the new-married couple join. Among the Cashibos, Conibos, and some few of the Setebos, the marriage ceremony is attended with cruelly disgusting and barbarous practices. We made inquiries from the padre as to the traditions or antiquities of these people: his answer was, that they were so constantly

under the influence of masata, that they scarcely remembered the occurrences of the past day; though, from habit, they have an excellent recollection of places, so that they will easily find their way again to any part of the thickest forest where they have once been. Their songs are mere yells, without much meaning, and have never any traditional significance. The night is the usual time for a hostile attack; and to make sure of their victims they surround the house, throw a few burning arrows into the thatch, which immediately takes fire, and massacre the inmates, with clubs and lances, as they are endeavouring to escape from the flames. To prevent such surprises, a strict nightly watch is kept in every house: two of the men seat themselves in the place from which they think the enemy's approach most likely to be heard, and keep a light burning throughout the night; the least noise rouses their attention, and their faculty of hearing is particularly acute. These sentries, to beguile the time of their watch, amuse each other with stories told in a very low tone of voice. Even among those who are in a considerable degree civilised at Sarayacu, some still observe these precautions. Their power of discovering whether any one has passed through the forest, even in the thickest part, is very surprising; and, when he has taken the greatest pains to conceal his track, they will find out which way he came, and in what direction he went. None of the tribes have any knowledge of figures; indeed, they have no word for any number beyond two; if they wish to express four, they say twice two; if more than four, they say many; to express a considerable number they hold up both hands, and if beyond this, they shew their hands and feet. The women experience very little pain in childbirth; twins are frequently produced, and when this happens to those who do not belong to the Mission, one is always destroyed; no preference is shown to sex, but that which seems to be the most promising is chosen to be reared. In case an infant is born deformed in any respect, it is immediately destroyed, for they suppose it to be an offspring of the evil spirit, and hold it in abhorrence; and all the exertions of the padre to correct this notion, and reform their practice, have hitherto been unavailing. Some tribes are longer lived than others, which is probably owing to their being less addicted to excess. Father Plaza asserted that he had known an instance of a man attaining the age of one hundred and thirty; but, as the truth of the fact could not have been within his knowledge, and deficient as the Indians are in the power of numeration, we cannot help doubting the correctness of this statement. On the death of a husband or wife, it is the custom for the survivor to cry now and then during the space of a year, but not after that time; and when it thunders, they imagine they hear the voice of the deceased. Interment takes place soon after death, as soon as the goods of the deceased, which it is thought may be useful to him in another world, can be scraped together: his canoe forms his coffin, being cut to the proper length and boarded up at the ends and at top; in this the deceased and his goods are placed, and he is buried as near the centre of the house, at the depth of six or seven feet, as the previous interment of other bodies will permit."

Having given this long extract, which makes us acquainted with an interesting portion of the earth, of which we previously knew so little, we cannot afford space to accompany our friends down the Mayali, Maranon, Amazons, and

Purus; but must conclude, by cordially recommending their eight months' expedition to the attention of the public. The sketches which illustrate the text are very pretty and characteristic.

My Confessions to Silvio Pellico; the Autobiography of Guido Sorelli. Pp. 399. *Le mie Confessioni, &c.* London, 1836. Rolandi.

"My confessions to Silvio Pellico (says the author) are nothing more nor less than a faithful statement of the uninterrupted mercy of the Lord towards a sinner—shewing by what a chain of strange, unavoidable, and unforeseen events, and by what a path of deep, though transient sorrow, I have been led by Divine Providence to open the Bible, to read it in the spirit of prayer and humility, and, at last, having become a Protestant, to be enabled to feel, and to say with David, 'Great is the peace that they that have who love thy law, and they are not offended at it.'"

The volumes, one Italian, the other English, give us the history of the writer's conversion from the Roman Catholic to the Protestant religion; and forerun his intention of preaching Protestantism in his native Italy, including Rome itself. The polemical portion is not for our page, but we may state that the picture of Sorelli's early life is both curious and interesting; and that there is throughout his work much matter to attract the attention of the general reader, merely for information and amusement.

On Deformities of the Chest. By William Coulson, Consulting Surgeon to the London Lying-in Hospital, &c. &c. Pp. 71. London, 1836. Hurst.

This is a valuable contribution to surgical science. The case in which the vital machinery performs its functions is of primary importance to mankind; and we know to how many and what distressing and dangerous derangements it is exposed. These Mr. Coulson has investigated with a skilful and patient industry, and the results of his practical experience are here, briefly but clearly, laid before us. No portions of the work deserve more universal attention than those which treat of deformities caused by the pressure of stays, busks, and other articles of female dress, and especially by tight-lacing. The necessity for remedying these defects, while the bones are in a pliant state, is earnestly enforced: otherwise, sooner or later, the individual falls a sacrifice to some internal disease, produced by the malformation of the external structure. The volume altogether merits as much the consideration of parents and families as of the faculty itself.

Madrid in 1835: Sketches of the Metropolis of Spain and its Inhabitants, and of the Society and Manners in the Peninsula. By a Resident Officer. 2 vols. 8vo. London, 1836. Saunders and Otley.

WE have of late had so many volumes relating to Spain, and gone so much at length into their contents, that we are induced to dismiss these new volumes with greater brevity than we would otherwise have observed. They entirely fulfil the character of their title-page; and may be said to afford more elaborate sketches of Madrid, and parts of Spain, than we have had from any other quarter. The author, an observant and intelligent man, presents us with lively and interesting views of the capital, its varied population, their habits and appearances, the markets, churches, theatres, tertulias, bull-fights, &c. &c.; and then, entering more minutely into the state of the country, treats of the ministry and modes of government, which he depicts in very unfavourable colours,—the grandees, whom he represents in the lowest grade of civilisation,—monasteries, convents, and the clergy,—hos-

pitals, prisons, and other national features; all of which are described simply and minutely, so as to furnish a fund of information for every reader who desires to know the condition of Spain in 1835.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Tracts relating to Caspar Hauser, by Earl Stanhope. Translated from the original German. 12mo. pp. 101. (London, J. S. Hodson.)—These tracts discuss very successfully the evidence in support of this strange imposture; and the noble author fairly and candidly exposes the grounds on which he was misled into a belief of the wonderful tale. Germans have a strong tendency towards the imaginative; but, for ourselves, we must say that, with English matter-of-factness and incredulity, we always, as we stated at the time the first account was published, considered this to be what is vulgarly called a hoax. Well might Lord Stanhope remark, "The opinions of Feuerbach appeared to me to have found very little credit in England, where last year a translation of his work appeared, and where many readers asked me, 'How much of it can we believe?' He concealed, also, the most important facts which are contained in the first documents of the police, and which I very well remember to have read in them; so that his work is by no means to be considered as founded upon authentic documents." The Princess Caraboo, and Hunter, the pseudo-Indian, however, show that even in England we are not altogether guarded from impositions of a similar kind; but we have only to add, as regards the present case, that Lord S. thinks Caspar Hauser unwittingly killed himself when trying to inflict a slight wound, in order to carry out his romance, revive an interest in his fate, stifle investigation, and procure his being removed from the impending danger of detection.

The Life of Lorenzo di Medici, called the Magnificent, by William Roscoe; a new edition, with a Memoir of the author, by his Son, Thomas Roscoe. (London, Scott, Webster, and Geary.)—This new edition of the life of the great Lorenzo is not the least attractive among the cheap publications of the day. We have here, in a single volume, the whole of Roscoe's elegant work, without the slightest abridgement of the text. The Memoir gives a brief, but fair and interesting account of the author's life and doings; and the remarks at its conclusion are a just tribute to his merit. In recommending this valuable little volume to our readers, we must not omit to mention, that a well-engraved portrait of Lorenzo forms the frontispiece.

A Compendium of Rudiments in Theology, &c. &c., by the Rev. J. B. Smith, B.D., &c. 12mo. pp. 607. (London, Rivingtons.)—Designed for the use of students, this is a very excellent manual, in which Butler's Analogy, Graves on the Pentateuch, and Newton on the Prophecies, are judiciously analysed and digested. But not only may the student in divinity be clearly and largely helped upon his course by this volume; in our opinion it will not be less acceptable to the general Christian reader, and those, especially, who have not time for the large works whose essence it embraces will feel deeply indebted to Mr. Smith for his labour of love.

A Compendium of Principles in Philosophy and Dialectic, &c., by John Vizard. Pp. 178. (London, Crofts.)—Another useful book, though not so elementary; in which the editor investigates the relations between body and spirit, the immortality of the soul, and the attributes of the Deity. The classic illustrations shine in with peculiar beauty and effect with the doctrines of Scripture.

A Narrative of the Loss of the Thetis; or of the Operations for the Recovery of the Stores and Treasure sunk in her, &c., by Capt. T. Dickinson, R.N. 8vo. pp. 191. (London, Longman and Co.)—The Thetis was lost off Cape Frio in 1830; and Capt. Dickinson, in the sloop Lightning, went to effect the salvage of her stores and treasure. His account of this expedition (which has led to much litigation), and of the operations of the diving-bell, contains some curious particulars; but the parts which will most interest the general reader, are those which mention incidents or describe objects of natural history, &c. on the island where our countrymen encamped.

James's Naval History of Great Britain, No. 1., edited by Capt. Chamer, R.N. (London, Bentley.)—With a very good portrait of Lord Howe, by Greatbatch, after Gainsborough, we are glad to welcome the first appearance, in shilling Numbers, of this truly valuable national work. Edited by so competent an authority as Captain Chamer, James's volumes, which did so much to establish the character of the British navy and its achievements on their just basis, cannot fail to be most popular throughout the empire.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS.

ON Monday evening we attended the last meeting of the season, Earl de Grey in the chair, and were much gratified to have ocular proof of the increasing prosperity and importance of this desirable institution. With all the talent of England which has been and is directed to architecture, as to other branches of arts or sciences, we cannot but feel, in the midst of insulated efforts of infinite merit and

beauty, that its general character is low and uncertain. There seems to be no recognition of fixed principles, no acknowledged system; but, on the contrary, vagueness, experimenting, tastelessness, ignorance, and bricklaying. It is to be hoped that the proceedings of a Society like the present will tend to correct these evils, and lead us into a knowledge of what is right and pure in so grand and permanent a department of national refinement. With such a corner-stone, we can hardly be disappointed, for Earl de Grey is the life and soul of the Association; and on this occasion afforded us ample means for forming an opinion of the probable beneficial results of any labours in this line over which he presided.

Several interesting letters from foreign correspondents were read, in one of which it was mentioned, that the column of Luxor, about to be erected at Paris, was to be in the Place de la Concorde, and the pedestal composed of five immense blocks of stone from the quarries of Brest. It also appeared that the government of France was expending between two and three hundred thousand pounds a-year on public works, churches, arches, prisons, monuments, &c.—so different is the course of our neighbours from ours, where to offer an embellishment to the metropolis is to beget the bitterest opposition, and involve you in heavy legal expenses. Witness the case of the loyal and patriotic group to the memory of George the Third, which has been thrown into chancery instead of having been raised in the street by public acclamation.

Mr. Donaldson read, from the German, a portion of an essay on the external colouring of their temples by the Greeks, which he illustrated by remains of buildings and drawings. The subject is one of much curious research, and we were much pleased with Mr. Donaldson's examples and remarks.

The first medal awarded by the Society (an admirable specimen of Wyon's skill, with the Temple of Theseus, executed in high relief and a splendid style) was presented to Mr. Goodwin, junior, for the best architectural essay, after an impressive and feeling address by the president; in which he expatiated on the rising prospects of the Society, on the talent displayed by the young artist on whom this honour had fallen, and on the expediency of the spirit of zeal and emulation being kept up by the whole brotherhood in their studies and travels. From their contributions to her general stock, however small, great advantages might be derived; the pebbles they collected might, in the aggregate, become a noble structure.

Mr. Goodwin briefly expressed his thanks, with modesty and emotion, which were greatly applauded; and, in truth, we never heard more befitting sentiments delivered in a better manner, either of language or deportment. The pride and triumph of the moment were happily softened down into the overpowering sense of gratitude, and the affecting thought of what he should endeavour to do hereafter to approve his worthiness.

The president then closed the session till December, and received the thanks of the meeting, which were voted with great applause.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

Oxford, July 9th.—The following degrees were conferred:—
Bachelor and Doctor in Divinity, by Accumulation.—The Rev. T. P. Hardwicke, Worcester Coll.
Master of Arts.—The Rev. J. Bennett, Christ Church.
Bachelors of Arts.—W. F. Lewis, St. Mary Hall; A. Oswald, Christ Church.

FINE ARTS.

The Laws of Harmonious Colouring, adapted to Interior Decorations, Manufactures, and other Useful Purposes. By D. R. Hay, House Painter, Edinburgh. Third edition. 8vo. pp. 72. Edinburgh, 1836. Chambers; London, Orr and Smith.

A HIGHLY ingenious and able work; not only of incalculable advantage to the classes to whom it is immediately addressed, but which may be studied with great benefit by those who are engaged in the various departments of what are, *par excellence*, styled, "The Fine Arts." Adopting the modern theory that light consists of only three primary colours, instead of seven (as maintained by Newton), Mr. Hay shews, by a variety of examples (justly acknowledging his obligations to Field's excellent treatise on Chromatics), the laws by which those colours may be combined, contrasted, and otherwise arranged, so as to produce the most striking and appropriate effects; and coloured diagrams illustrate his principles in the most satisfactory manner. An Appendix, "On the Application of the Arts of Design and Colouring to Manufactures," was suggested to Mr. Hay by the Report of the select committee of the House of Commons, on the state of art as applied to the manufactures of this country; in which it is proved, "that this branch of industry has suffered greatly from an inferiority in the design and colouring of our patterns of all kinds of fancy goods, when brought into competition with those of other countries." This Appendix contains much valuable instruction to the young persons who undertake the cultivation of ornamental design, as to best modes of acquiring excellence. Mr. Hay laments, and, in our opinion, most wisely, that, in many cases, those who would have distinguished themselves as ornamental designers, have been induced to swell the ranks of professional artists; and thus to exchange a life of respectability and comfort, for one, too frequently, of unmixed misery.

"It is seldom," he observes, "that the young men who are admitted to our drawing academies consider their studies as merely intended to improve them in the useful arts to which they may be bred. They almost uniformly imbibe the idea of rising into a higher sphere; and seem to have no other ulterior object in their studies than to leave their humble calling, at the expiry of their indenture, and become artists. I speak from particular facts which have come under my own observation. Many an industrious young man, of mediocre talent, but possessing sufficient to have raised him to the head of ornamental painting, have I known sacrifice himself to a life of penury and neglect from this vain idea."

"Various reasons may be assigned for the prevalence of this mania amongst young men who have had opportunities of studying the art of drawing; the flattery of their friends, injudicious patronage, the desire to become, by the quickest and easiest means, a gentleman, and various others, over which no national institution can have any control. The most prominent cause, however, seems to be, that nothing is reckoned a work of art unless it be a picture. No matter how superior an ornamental design may be, or how much study and knowledge may have been required to produce it, still the production of such, although it may increase the wealth of the individual, cannot raise him one step in the scale of society—he is only a mechanic in the eyes of the public. On the other hand, no

sooner does the youth lay aside his useful implements, and dash off upon canvass something like a landscape—often with no eye to nature, but in servile imitation of some popular painter—than he seems to be by common consent raised to the dignity of artist. In short, those branches of the fine arts that are applicable to manufacture and other departments of useful industry, do not in this country hold that relative situation to the more intellectual and higher branches to which they are fairly entitled."

He subsequently regrets that "a sufficient portion of that genius which at present seems to be all flowing into one channel, would, like a mill-race taken from a river, be directed from that which is merely ornamental to that which is essentially useful and beneficial to the country. Art would not suffer from this; on the contrary, where real genius was discovered, the facilities of encouraging it would be much greater, and we should have less of that misapplied, and often selfish sort of patronage which fosters mediocre talent until it is factitiously raised to where it cannot stand, and is then, by the desertion of such injudicious patrons, allowed to fall far below its own natural level."

We fear, nay, we know, that there is but too much truth in the remarks which immediately follow:—

"I have attributed selfishness to some of these pretended patrons of art, for I know that they are often actuated by that feeling. They cannot bring their minds to encourage those who have really proved themselves to possess the qualities that constitute the real artist; the works of such are too expensive, because their true value is known. Their protégés are the undeveloped, and they procure the early attempts of such for a mere pittance. They calculate that these embryo artists are all to be Wilkies and Allans in their day, and that their early productions will, like those of such great men, consequently become highly valuable. No doubt some have been successful; and, on one occasion, well known to the artists of the present day, circumstances proved the motive of the patron to be of this description. In many cases, too, injudicious patronage is the means of fostering mediocrity, which, assisted by other circumstances, is sustained in a situation injurious to the interests of true art. This is well known, and much lamented amongst artists themselves—I mean such as really deserve the name. Hence the necessity of national institutions, where merit alone will receive patronage, and be honoured by the approbation of those who are best able to be its judges."

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Canterbury Pilgrimage. T. Stothard, R.A. Pinxt. C. Henning, Sculpt. Hering.

ENGRAVED by the celebrated *procédé de A. Collas*, and so admirably as to be perfectly deceptive.

MUSIC.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Trio for Three Flutes. By A. S. Rich. London, Prosser.

THIS trio reflects credit on the composer, and on the admirable flautist to whom it is inscribed, —Nicholson, whose worthy pupil we believe Mr. Rich to have been. With such talents as are here evinced, he could not do other than honour to his instructor, and take a high rank

in the profession to which he thus shews he has skilfully and successfully devoted himself.

DRAMA.

Haymarket.—A very humorous, and exceedingly well acted, one-act farce was produced on Saturday, and met with entire success. It belongs to the broad order, and is ominously entitled, *Make your Wills*. But, notwithstanding this grave name, it is a very laughable piece of extravagance, founded on the will of an aged and offended gentleman, and the expectancies of a true son, and a heartless, plotting nephew. These parts were performed in the best manner by Strickland, Selby, and Webster; and, when we add that Buckstone had also a character well suited to his talents, and Mrs. W. Clifford, Miss Wrighten, and Mr. T. F. Mathews, filled up the *dram. pers.* efficiently, we need make no further remark on the deservedly popular reception of this amusing trifle.

English Opera.—The *Rose of the Alhambra*, the music by De Pinna, which was performed once or twice at Covent Garden, has been produced here with marked success. It is precisely one of those dramas which are most congenial to the name and objects of this theatre. Struggling, as it has, against gross monopolies, we must not forget that the *Sylph*, and other fine native compositions, have been produced at the English Opera House; and whatever causes may have marred the full development of its spirit, or crippled its efforts, they may, nevertheless, on a retrospect, bear a fair comparison with any other existing theatre. The *Rose of the Alhambra* is very sweet and pleasing. The music can boast little of originality, but it displays much taste and feeling, and is of an order to be well relished by the many, while it is not disliked by the select few. Miss Shirreff is the *Rose*—aye, and the nightingale, too—of the *Alhambra*. Her several tender airs are exquisitely sung, and her polacca is brilliantly executed. Mr. Wilson, as the *Queen's Page*, is not less delightful; and, besides a charming serenade, is admirable in two duets with Miss Shirreff, a trio with that lady and Bland, and a quartet with the same and Mr. Willing. Mr. Bland, Miss Novello, &c. also contribute to the harmony; and Salter, Mr. Ian, Bannister, Mrs. F. Mathews, keep up the humour of the inferior characters, and Mr. Perkins and Miss Jackson support the dignity of the King and Queen of Spain. The scenery is beautiful, and the whole piece is got up in a manner which does honour to the management. We rejoice to say, that full and applauding audiences nightly testify to the merits of the opera, as it is sung and acted by this company.

Colosseum Evening Entertainments.—As he proceeds, Mr. Braham has added many attractions to these varied and delightful evening entertainments. The passionate recitations of the youthful Miss Alison, in the character of a captive, remind us of the powers of Mrs. Lichfield (with more, perhaps, of nature and human sympathy); and the Arabs, now night-stars, instead of displaying their wonderful feats by day, are quite sufficient to gratify any audience. But there are fifty other things to delight the senses, and amuse both old and young—dancing, not the least to win the latter. The scene is altogether gay and splendid.

VARIETIES.

Arthur's Seat Curiosities.—Arthur, of Edinburgh, was, no doubt, a giant; and it is quite extraordinary to learn, that the burial-place of

his family has recently been discovered in a cavern in one of the rocks which form his majestic Seat. Yet, so it appears from the Edinburgh journals, some children at play pitched accidentally upon this mausoleum, in which were found seventeen *quasi* defunct dolls with wooden heads, deposited in three rows of sepulture, eight on each of the lower tiers, and one commencing the third. It is to be hoped this will lead the Scottish antiquaries into an investigation of the descendants of the renowned Arthur, and whether the dolls of Flanders or elsewhere are related to him.

National Gallery.—The newspapers state that the east wing of this building is to be finished forthwith, so that the Royal Academy exhibition of next year may take place there, and not at Somerset House. They add, that a circular building, attached to the north side of the west wing, is to be appropriated to the sculpture.

The Club, forming under the name of the Spencer and Junior Athenæum, has, we observe, changed its title to that of "The Parthenon," which is not unfit for an association, one of whose objects is to make an extensive collection of domestic and foreign literature. As avoiding the whirlpool of politics, and allowing a calm neutral space for the intelligent to congregate, we are glad to find that the ranks of its subscribers are fast filling up (we are informed, 500 already), with noblemen and gentlemen of eminence, talent, and consideration.

Phrenology.—A phrenological chart, by E. T. Craig, author of other productions on this subject, has been sent to us for the usual notice. The head is coloured in various hues, and exhibits the names of the 35 organs now recognised by the votaries of this doctrine, with their ascribed functions, &c. &c. It seems to us to contain quite as much as is worth knowing on the subject; of which, *apropos*, the Society of Medicine of Paris, after four sittings, and hearing long discussions *pro et con*, has just declared its rejection has a science.

The Tuileries.—The palace of the Tuileries, it is well known, takes its name from having been built on the site of some ancient *tile-kilns*. Of these, remains have recently been uncovered in making a deep sewer in front of the Place de Carrousel.

Spanish Flies.—From the Belgian papers we observe, that an army of Spanish flies, from the southern parts of France, has entered the territories of Luxembourg, and committed great ravages on the growing crops. Their depredations resemble those of locusts in the east.

The Michael Angelo Drawings.—We rejoice to see that our invocation respecting these drawings (belonging to the late Sir T. Lawrence) had, at least, a kindred feeling in some distinguished artists and members of the Royal Academy. On Thursday, Mr. Phillips, and a deputation of artists, had an interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the subject of preserving them in and for the country.

Napoleon's Conquest of England!—"M. Hamy has presented to the Museum of Boulogne a medal, now extremely rare, struck by Napoleon to commemorate his intended invasion of England. On the obverse is seen the head of Napoleon, crowned with laurel, with the inscription, 'Napoleon, Empereur'; on the reverse, Hercules stifling in his arms a monster, half man, half fish. Around this figure is the inscription, 'Descente en Angleterre.' Round the edge are the premature words, 'Frappée à Londres en 1804.'—*Foreign Quarterly Rev.*

Maestro Paganini is at present residing at his villa near Parma for the purpose of recruiting his impaired health. He has declared in the Italian journals that all compositions which have appeared in other countries under his name are spurious, and that he has hitherto published nothing but 24 capricci for the violin, 6 sonatas for violin and guitar, and 6 quartets for violin, guitar, and violoncello; but that he intends soon to publish the whole of his works.—*Ibid.*

"**The Musical World.**"—This little weekly publication has now achieved its first volume; and it affords us pleasure to notice, that it has not only fulfilled its early promise but gone on improving. It possesses taste and judgment in its musical criticisms; qualities rarely found in the generality of the things so called, with reference to music particularly, in the periodical press; and it relieves its scientific parts very pleasantly by a lightness of style, anecdote, and biography.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

A Supplementary Part to the original edition of Stuart's "Athens," containing the curious plate wanting in the second volume of all the copies extant, together with several other plates, from drawings by Sir J. L. Chantrey, &c., is announced by Mr. J. Weale.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Burn's Justice, new edition, with Corrections and Additions to the latest period, edited by Sergeant D'Oyley and E. V. Williams, Esq. 5 vols. 8vo. 6s. 6d. bds.—*Lancaster on the Steam-engine*, 6th edition, 12mo. 7s. 6d.—*Catechisms of the Currency*, a new edition, enlarged, by John Taylor, 12mo. 4s. cloth.—*Berkeley Castle: a Historical Romance*, by the Hon. G. Berkeley, M.P. 3 vols. post 8vo. 1l. 11s. 6d. bds.—*Sketches of English Literature*, by Viscount De Chateaubriand, 2 vols. 8vo. 24s.—*Narratives of South America*, illustrative of Manx, &c. by C. Emson, 8vo. 10s. cloth.—*An Account of the War in Portugal between Don Pedro and Don Miguel*, by Admiral Charles Napier, 2 vols. post 8vo. 21s.—*Madrid in 1835*, by a Resident Officer, 2 vols. 8vo. 38s. cloth.—*Chevy Chase*, illustrated in 12 Plates, by J. Franklin, Esq. royal 4to. 21s. cloth.—*Tales of a Rambler*, illustrated by H. C. Selous, post 8vo. 10s. 6d. cloth.—*Wm's Missionary Journal*, 2d edition, 12mo. 4s. 6d. cloth.—*The Public and Private Life of the Ancient Greeks*, by H. Hase, from the German, fcap. 8s. 6d. bds.—*Brief Account of the Researches and Discoveries in Upper Egypt under H. Salt*, by Giovanni D'Albanasi, 8vo. 12s. cloth.—*Carême's French Cookery*, translated by W. Hall, 8vo. 21s. cloth.—*The Rambler in Mexico*, 1834, by C. J. Latrobe, post 8vo. 9s. cloth.—*A Manual of the Political Antiquities of Greece*, from the German of C. T. Herman, 8vo. 15s. cloth.—*Rattlin the Reeler*, edited by the Author of "Peter Simple," with Illustrations, 3 vols. post 8vo. 1l. 11s. 6d. bds.—*National Lyrics and Songs for Music*, by F. Hemans, 2d edition, 24mo. 4s. 6d. silk.—*Contributions for Youth*, by Mrs. Sherwood, &c. &c. royal 18mo. 4s. 6d. bds.—*The Meadow Queen*, or the Young Botanist, 18mo. 2s. 6d. cloth.—*The Speculum applied to the Diagnostic and Treatment of the Organic Diseases of the Womb*, by John Baillie, A.M. 8vo. 12s. cloth.

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1836.

July.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday .. 14	From 52 to 69	29.69 to 29.61
Friday .. 15	48 .. 63	29.64 .. 29.69
Saturday .. 16	43 .. 63	29.64 .. 29.69
Sunday .. 17	53 .. 70	29.79 .. 29.98
Monday .. 18	49 .. 69	30.02 .. 30.01
Tuesday .. 19	44 .. 65	29.64 .. 29.73
Wednesday 20	49 .. 54	29.58 .. 29.49

Prevailing winds, W. by S. and W. Generally cloudy, with frequent rain; lightning in the N. on the evening of the 15th.

Rain fallen, .975 of an inch.

Edmonton.

CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.

Latitude .. 51° 37' 32" N.
Longitude .. 3 51 W. of Greenwich.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"The Portland Shepherd's" production was noticed in *this Gazette*; and we regret to see, from his long letter received on Tuesday, that his personal story is not a poetical fiction. Living in a garret, having expended his small means in printing, and expecting either fame or profit from such a performance in this great struggling world, is indeed a wild, mistaken, and unhappy case. His utter ignorance and simplicity in inclosing *five shillings* to us, places us in the predicament of begging to know where it may be returned, and doubled or quadrupled to relieve the too obvious distress of the sender.

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—*Literary Gazette*, Jan. 3d, 1863.

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